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THE TIMES

Shirley Williams: The hunger for a new beginning, page 14

Russia attacks American race for arms superiority

The Soviet Union has delivered a stinging attack on the Reagan Administration, accusing it of encouraging the growth of international tension. An article in "Pravda" gave a warning that the "unprecedented super-arming" of the United States posed a danger not only to communist countries but also to West Europe.

'Danger of increase in world tension'

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 25

The Russians today accused the Reagan Administration of indulging in an orgy of military spending, but gave a warning that the Soviet Union would not allow the Americans to achieve military superiority.

In the most comprehensive attack on American policy since President Reagan took office, the Soviet leaders accused the Administration of deliberately multiplying the errors of its predecessors. They said that President Carter's Government had done "pernicious things" to poison the international atmosphere, but the Reagan Administration was bent not on lessening but encouraging the growth of international tension.

A long and sharply worded article in *Pravda*, signed with a pseudonym reserved for authoritative statements of Soviet policy, said that Washington had plunged the United States into an "unprecedented" arms race, which could be explained only by a striving for military superiority.

But it added that the American leaders themselves, including Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, admitted that there was no threat to American security. Both they and the specialists from the Soviet Ministry of Defence had concluded that there was still a rough balance between the Nato forces and those of the Warsaw Pact. There was no evidence, *Pravda* went on, that this would soon change into Russian superiority.

"As it has already been authoritatively stated more than once by the leaders of the Soviet Union, our country does not strive for the attainment of military superiority. The military potential of the Soviet Union does not exceed the requirements of necessary defence, this being in full accord with the defensive nature of the Soviet military doctrine."

The real military threat hanging over America came not from the mythical Soviet superiority but from the arms race itself. And *Pravda* cited western reports of American armament plans which, it said, were creating the preconditions for the Pentagon's military strategy. This "unprecedented super-arming" of the United States was an attempt to create superiority in all categories of weapons.

Pravda gave a warning that fulfilment of these plans posed a danger not only to the communist countries, but also to western Europe. "When an attempt is made in the biggest capitalist country to remove the brakes that prevented an unbridled arms race, then danger hangs over the whole of mankind."

But military superiority nowadays was unobtainable. "The Soviet Union will not allow the creation of such a superiority over it."

The long article, written as Mr Anatoly Dobrynin, the Soviet Ambassador in Washington, had a lengthy talk with Mr Haig, asserted that the Russians did genuinely want normal relations with America. "There is simply no other sensible way" for the good of their two countries. The paper repeated President Brezhnev's remark at the recent party congress that these relations also had an important effect on the whole world situation.

For their part the Russians were pursuing a "principled and constructive line" in relations with America. "We would like to hope that those who today shape America's policy will be able in the long run to look at matters more realistically."

Citing American declarations of support for the Afghan insurgents, the junta in El Salvador and the Unita guerrillas in Angola, it said that as a result of Washington's "provocative" actions new flashpoints were appearing in various continents.

Returning to the accusations made against President Carter, the article said it had become fashionable in America to show a slighting attitude to generally accepted rules of inter-state relations. And just as the former President had frozen bilateral talks and ratification of the Salt treaty limiting strategic arms, the White House was now doing the same. "Statements about intention to link this burning issue of our time with other debatable problems have nothing good in store."



Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Mr John Willis (second from right) directing the bidding at a near-empty Chichester Market yesterday. Many farmers stayed away for fear of foot-and-mouth disease. (Report, page 3).

Two medical schools to be merged

By Nicholas Timmins

Westminster Hospital medical school is to be merged with the Charing Cross, and about 180 medical teaching jobs are to be cut from London's medical schools as a result of a far-reaching reorganization of medical education approved yesterday by the senate of London University.

The Westminster which last year staved off proposals to close it, is to merge with the Charing Cross, the joint school to be based at the Charing Cross site in Fulham. The decision appears to mean that the Westminster has lost its fight for independence.

In addition, the senate approved decisions that will mean that the equivalent of two preclinical schools and one clinical school will also close. But the decision on which parts of St Mary's and the Middlesex will close, and whether the London Hospital pre-clinical will close or be merged in a new development with St Bartholomew's Hospital and Queen Mary College, London, has been postponed, pending further discussions.

Unknown group claims it sent bomb to MP

By John Groser

A letter claiming responsibility for a letter bomb delivered to an MP was received yesterday afternoon at the London office of *The Sun* newspaper. It was signed with the initials "ERA", a code unknown to Scotland Yard.

The bomb, addressed to Mrs Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston, was intercepted in the Palace of Westminster sorting office and rendered harmless early yesterday.

Explosives experts who were called in to deal with the device said the package, which measured 19 inches by 12 inches, resembled the one addressed to the Prime Minister and which was spotted in the Victoria sorting office last January.

The bomb, which was concealed in a padded bag, was examined by the Scotland Yard bomb disposal unit.

The initial reaction of officers was that it was probably meant to maim rather than kill.

Mrs Knight said it was "a very nasty bomb" that had been designed to blow up in her face. She added that it was made of glass and "was made to disfigure me, but could easily have killed me". She had not seen the bomb but was "terribly indebted to whoever found it". The MP added that the sorter must have been very sharp and she was concerned that he had risked injury.

Last year a letter bomb addressed to Mr Frank Allaun, the Labour MP for Salford, East, slipped through the Commons sorting office net and found its way to the MP's home, where his wife became suspicious and called police bomb experts to deal with it.

The House of Commons postmaster explained that Mr Harry Hirons the duty sorter, who was working alone early yesterday morning, became suspicious of the package addressed to Mrs Knight. Mr Hirons immediately telephoned the police and the bomb disposal officers arrived about 20 minutes later to remove it.

He said: "We are always on the lookout for this sort of thing. Most parcels we receive of this sort are properly typed with the name of the firm on the back, but this had none of that. Then I noticed a copper wire sticking through one of the perforated holes in the package. I could feel that the wire went right along the parcel." The police told Mr Hirons to remain calm and he put the package at one end of the sorting office and continued with his work at the other.

"I am used to this sort of thing. This is the seventh letter bomb I have reported though all the others were hoaxes." This one was posted in west central London and was addressed in neat, printed handwriting.

Mrs Knight has been an MP since 1966. Her immediate reaction when told of the letter bomb was that it must have been the work of the IRA. (She recently complained in the Commons of the use of taxpayers' money to fund visits to IRA prisoners by their families.)



Mrs Knight: "It could easily have killed."

Sir Roger Hollis was cleared of spying, Mrs Thatcher told

By Peter Hennessy, Craig Seton and Stewart Tendler

The Prime Minister has been told that the late Sir Roger Hollis, a former head of MI5, was investigated as a possible Soviet spy but cleared, according to highly placed intelligence and political sources yesterday.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is to make a statement in the Commons today on the case after allegations by Mr Chapman Pincher earlier this week that Sir Roger, Director-General of the counter-espionage service from 1956 to 1965 was interrogated about suspicions that he spied for the Soviet Union.

Sir Roger, according to the sources, came under suspicion because of the circumstances surrounding his mission to Ottawa to interview Mr Igor Gouzenko, a Soviet cypher expert who defected [details, page 6]. One well-placed member of the intelligence community said those circumstances were the only cause for suspicion about him.

It was learnt yesterday by *The Times* that the investigation in the late 1960s and early 1970s, after Sir Roger had retired, into Soviet penetration of the British security and intelligence services produced three names. They were Mr Kim Philby, who defected in 1963; Professor Anthony Blunt, who confessed in 1964, and Sir Roger.

In the Gouzenko case Sir Roger was thought to have failed to have made maximum use of the information offered. But Mr Gouzenko's evidence led in fact to the discovery of spy rings in the United States, Canada, and Britain.

The evidence against Sir Roger is reported to have been circumstantial. The assumption that his habit of working late at the office, long after the departure of other staff, had a sinister motive was denied. He was said to have been totally dedicated to the service and to have been always determined to complete the day's work before going home.

It was also assumed that his unhappy first marriage and his relationship with his secretary, whom he later married, were further reasons for his apparent zeal.

Support for Sir Roger's innocence also came yesterday from Mr Nigel West, author of a forthcoming book on the history of MI5.

He told *The Times* there was a Soviet agent inside MI5 during the period between 1940 and 1963. "He was not Roger Hollis, although Sir Roger went through a very thorough check along with all the rest of the senior MI5 management", Mr West said. "The 'mole' in fact died in 1963 and his death removed the last remaining obstacles to Blunt's confessions."

He would not be drawn on the name, although he claimed to know it, but he indicated the man had reached a very high level in the Security Service. Mr West said: "Pincher was right in saying there was a senior Soviet agent operating throughout the 1940s and 1950s. He named the wrong man."

Mr West added that the agent warned Professor Blunt that Mr Maclean was to be interviewed in 1951 and that that led to Mr Maclean's and Mr Guy Burgess's defections. The man's death in 1963 freed Professor Blunt to make his confession to MI5 in 1964.

"Hollis went to considerable lengths to establish the truth of the 1951 defections", Mr West said. "Furthermore, the Security Service went to the unprecedented point of opening their files to an outsider [Lord Trend, former Secretary of the Cabinet] so the details of the investigation could be checked.

"The report that followed was shown to the Prime Minister of the day [Sir Harold Wilson] for his approval. This arrangement was designed to protect the Security Service from any misinformed accusations of a "cover-up".

Some of Mr West's details of Sir Roger's early career were checked yesterday and confirmed from independent sources, but it was not possible to establish the truth of his claim about the senior MI5 man who spied for the Soviet Union until his death in 1963.

Mr West said the credibility of his arguments rested on more than three years' research into MI5 and consultations with more than a hundred serving or retired counter-intelligence officers and agents.

Thatcher bid to reassure and Peer 'double agent', page 6
Diary, page 14
Leading article, page 15

I think there's enough K.G.B. agents in England to form a New Political Party..
Calman

Why the British are a nation of fiddlers

By Frances Williams

Britain is a nation of cheats, fiddlers and petty pilferers, out to do down employers, customers and the taxman alike, if a new book out today is to be believed. At the same time, we are caring, altruistic and self-reliant, always ready to give a neighbour a helping hand or to devote our energies to serving the community.

What all these activities have in common is that they are part of what is variously called the black, hidden or informal economy, an economy in which almost all of us participate to a greater or lesser extent.

Hands up all those who can solemnly swear that they have never used the office telephone for a personal call or pocketed the odd ballpoint pen or paper-clip.

Trivial though this may seem, some estimates put the total cost of pilfering and fiddling at around 1.8 per cent of national output. Studies suggest that between 75 and 92 per cent of employees admit "stealing" from their employers.

Why do we do it? One explanation is that workers are "assuaging grievances" by seizing benefits that the formal economy denies them—for example, blue-collar workers fiddle while white-collar workers get legitimate perks. Another is that fiddling provides a creative outlet and excitement which people cannot find elsewhere.

The book's editor, Dr Stuart Henry, claims that up to a fifth of the workforce may have unregistered second jobs or be involved in what he calls informal trading networks, working on the side for undeclared cash.

But the desire to boost income is not the only reason for moonlighting. Many people do it primarily because they enjoy the work or to help somebody out.

Estimates of the size of the black economy range from 2 to 3 per cent of national output to as much as 7½ per cent, with undeclared earnings costing the Exchequer £1,000m to £4,000m a year in lost tax revenue.

But the thrust of Dr Henry's book is that concern over lost tax revenues and the like may be misplaced. Far from imposing real costs on society, the black economy props it up, both by generating additional income and spending (of which the taxman gets his share) and by diverting rebellious spirits into relatively harmless pastimes.

Can I have it in cash? edited by Stuart Henry, published by Astragal Books, 9 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1. Price £12.95.

Proceedings start for extradition of Ronald Biggs from Barbados

By Frances Gibb

The Director of Public Prosecutions started proceedings yesterday for the extradition from Barbados of Ronald Biggs, after Scotland Yard had confirmed that fingerprints sent to them by the Barbados police were his.

The director's office said it had asked for all relevant statements and exhibits on Mr Biggs's conviction from Scotland Yard files. The extradition will take several weeks if uncontested, but could take several months if contested. [Lawyers representing Mr Biggs have filed a write of habeas corpus seeking his release, Reuter reports from Barbados.]

When signed by a magistrate, the papers will be passed to Barbados through diplomatic channels

As Mr Biggs was being questioned by immigration officers in Barbados yesterday, a warrant for the arrest of Mr John Miller, who is said to have organized his removal from Brazil, was issued in London.

Mr Miller, also known as Mr John McKillop, a former Scots Guards sergeant, failed to appear before Marlborough Street magistrates on a charge of actual bodily harm during a fight at Morton's Club, Berkeley Square, London, on December 3.

The court heard that Mr Miller, of Creswell Place, West Brompton, was in Barbados on business. Mr Leon Kaye, his solicitor, said. "Mr Miller has been involved in the recovery of Ronald Biggs from Brazil and the subsequent handing over of Mr Biggs in Barbados". He was doing all he could to assist the police in connexion with the affair.

Mr Miller, a director of Single Point Limited, a security firm, and four others with the backing of £56,000 undertook the apparent abduction of Mr Biggs which ended late on Monday night after seven days at sea.

Yesterday the bizarre facts behind the operation began to emerge. It involved the making of a film and the planned sale of the story to newspapers for up to £250,000. Mr Biggs himself, it is thought, went along with the plan, but did not know of the final episode, to land him on crown territory.

The operation was funded, according to Mr Sebastian Fraser, a partner with a publishing firm in north London, by the owner of a magazine company.

Mr Frederick Prime, a British ex-serviceman, and one of the five men who arrived in Barbados with Mr Biggs on the yacht, told a local newspaper yesterday that the operation "was just a publicity thing" to promote their security company.

Son to be moved: Mr Biggs's Brazilian ex-mistress is planning to fly their young son from Brazil to a new home in Switzerland (Associated Press reports).

Film removed: Photographic equipment and film has been removed from the schooner used to take Mr Biggs from Brazil (Reuter reports).

'a judges efuse oyalty oath

Islamabad, March 25.—At ıst eight senior judges in kistan lost their jobs today ter refusing to take a new th of office giving President a ul-Haq complete freedom change the country's constition, court officials said.

They included Mr Justice nwar ul-Haq, the Chief Juse, and two other Supreme urt judges, they said. At ıst six provincial high court dges were also absent from oath-taking ceremonies. e judges were not invited take the new oath and were ired.

The judges were required to ear a new oath under a govment decree which in effect rogated Pakistan's 1973 contution and replaced it with rigid code restricting the wer of the civil courts and posing strict limits on polial activity.

The order proscribed all but ew right-wing religious pars, declared void all court lgments dealing with the ality of the martial law ministration and provided a nominated Parliament to known as a Federal Council.

n separate letters to General , the chief Justice of the oreme Court and Mr Justice rab Patel and Mr Justice chruddin Ibrahim said they e bound by their conscience

Mr Justice Anwar presided r the appeals by Mr Bhutto, executed former Prime nister. Mr Justice Patel was ong the three judges who osed the death sentence. other, Mr Justice Ghulam dar Shah fled to Britain last r claiming police harassnt.—Reuter.

ootballer freed

Madrid, March 25.—The nish football star Joaquin uini" Castro, centre-forward Barcelona, was freed today kidnappers who had dended a ransom of £526,000. Police arrested three kidnaps. "Quini" is in good lth.

Labour counter-attack on 'dishonest' rebels

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Labour leaders last night challenged the personal and political integrity of the Social Democrat MPs who today launch their new party.

The counter-attack, aimed at dimming the spotlight of publicity which will shine on Mr Roy Jenkins, Mrs Shirley Williams, and their colleagues, was based on the leak of a Social Democrat document prepared by Dr David Owen, another member of the Gang of Four, in late November.

Although the document shows that the Social Democrat MPs were then still hovering on the brink of whether to form a new party instead of remaining and fighting within the Labour Party, Labour leaders chose to read it as a final commitment.

Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, said after a meeting of the national executive committee yesterday that Mrs Shirley Williams, a former committee member, had been planning behind their backs "and pretended to be as pure as driven snow".

With the Social Democrat document in front of him Mr Hayward extracted from his papers the text of an interview Mrs Williams had given on Independent Television News in February. She had said: "I have not been planning a new party and up until Wembley (the special party conference) there was no question of that . . . it would be quite improper to start a new party while one was till in the old party".

Dr Owen, who would not admit to the authorship of the document, said it was private and had been written in early November

"It was stolen from one of our offices. But it is quite clear in the text that we had not made up our minds and that we were still considering working as an organization in the party to counter the militant tendency." It was written long before the formation of the Council for Social Democracy.

The Labour national executive made considerable play of the document yesterday in unanimously approving a resolution deploring the action "of those MPs who were elected as Labour members, who have now defected from the Labour Party, and who now refuse to resign their seats.

The campaign to get them to resign, started by Mr Michael Foot, the party leader, will be stepped up today. The party will issue a statement from Labour officials in the constituencies of the 14 Social Democrats calling upon them to resign and fight by-elections.

The NEC resolution "noted with disgust the evidence published this morning of the cynical and unprincipled planning and establishment over the post five or more months of a so-called Social Democratic party by people who were at that time members of the Labour Party and who owed their public eminence and public office entirely to the Labour movement.

"We consider that it is now clear that this grouping has deliberately organized defection in such a way as to inflict maximum harm upon the Labour Party and the people in it and has, by following such a course, demonstrated a complete lack of personal and political integrity."

Jumping the gun: The Social Democrats yesterday delivered premature applications for "founder" membership of their new party to many of the 30,000 people who had signified initial support (our Political Editor writes). Through faulty coordination with the Post Office, glossy computerized letters sporting the title SDP, and soliciting subscriptions of at least £9, arrived through letter boxes in areas of London.

In a determined effort to demonstrate that the new party is not London-based, Mrs Williams will visit Edinburgh and Birmingham; Mr Jenkins Cardiff and Manchester; Mr William Rodgers Norwich and Leeds, and Dr Owen Southampton and Plymouth.

Document extracts, and Mr Cyril Smith's attack, page 2

Minimum 'core' of six secondary school subjects

The Government published guidance on what ought to be taught in schools, the first since the passing of the Education Act of 1944. The paper says all secondary school pupils should study a minimum "core" of six subjects up to the age of 16. They are mathematics, science, English, religious education, a humanities subject, and physical education **Page 4**

Low pay deals plea

A new Government drive to keep down pay settlements was launched by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer. He said pay awards should be in the middle of a single-figure range next year. The call for lower pay settlements came with a hint on a further interest rates cut later this year **Page 19**

Boy tells of kidnap

Mark Thody, aged 16, of Graveley, near Huntingdon, told of being kidnapped at knifepoint on Monday. He was found unharmed 36 hours later in West Yorkshire, the police said. A watch was kept on a £100,000 ransom left at Peterborough railway station but it was not collected. The police had asked for a news blackout on the incident **Page 2**

Attackers black out Kampala

Kampala and all of western Uganda were plunged into darkness when anti-government groups damaged the main power line from the Owen Falls hydro-electric station. In other attacks, a broadcasting station was damaged and the headquarters of the ruling Uganda People's Congress came under machine-gun fire **Page 7**

£920m tax 'shortfall'

Civil servants' union leaders said their strikes were cutting off about two-fifths of government revenue and had trebled state borrowing. The tax income shortfall was estimated at £920m in the first two weeks of selective stoppages. Action by customs staff is holding up cargoes at ports **Page 2**

Rebuke for Mr Haig

President Reagan has delivered what amounts to a public rebuke to Mr Alexander Haig, his Secretary of State, by announcing that Vice-President Bush would chair a crisis management committee after Mr Haig had made known his disapproval of the proposal **Page 7**

£5,700m rail project

Investment totalling £5,700m over the next 20 years is called for in British Rail's modernization plan, unveiled by Sir Peter Parker, the chairman. It includes main line electrification and subsidies for rural lines **Page 3**

Barclaycard users face disruption

Barclays Bank faces serious disruption if the 24-hour strike due to start today gains support from union members. Computer operators at Gloucester and Wythenshawe who control Barclaycard authorizations have voted to strike. The union said branches might be prevented from operating if sufficient operators are called out **Page 19**

Polish talks today

Talks between the Polish Government and Solidarity, to avert a strike on Friday and more next week, were adjourned last night until today after 30 minutes. Union spokesmen said the Justice Minister failed to present a reply to Solidarity's demands **Page 8**

Belfast shooting: City councillor was shot and wounded at his home as Dublin investigations into shooting of BL executive continued **2**

Bonn: West Germans are beginning to ask whether their Chancellor has lost his touch **6**

Liberal 'wets' attacked by Mr Smith

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

On the eve of the launching of the social democratic party, which hopes to form an alliance with the Liberals, Mr Cyril Smith, Liberal MP for Rochdale, last night condemned what he called the mishandling by his party leader, Mr David Steel, of the early negotiations with the "Gang of Four", Mr Roy Jenkins, Dr David Owen, Mr William Rodgers and Mrs Shirley Williams.

If there was to be an alliance it should be arranged now, he told Liberals in Newbury, Berkshire. But the Social Democrats had said they intended to do nothing about it before May, 1982.

"David Steel should tell them that they are not on", Mr Smith said. "What mugs we are being taken for. I tell you now, they are stringing us along, and I am sorry to say it, but we are letting them do so."

"All the wets are not in the Tory party."

Mr Smith said that the Social Democrats wanted the alliance with the Liberals only if they were satisfied that they could not win without it. "That is no basis on which to form one and I find it repulsive", he said.

He had always argued that there was room for only one centre party, and that was why he had urged Liberals to "strangle at birth" any fourth party. "I have constantly urged David Steel in private conversation to work towards one centre, radical party. It is a matter of profound regret to me that he has done exactly the opposite", he said.

He had to accept, however, that an alliance was inevitable. Therefore he was tired of the pussy-footing and "messing about" taking place. Formal discussion should take place now, before this year's Liberal assembly.

Only one type of deal was feasible, Mr Smith said. Wherever both parties existed in a constituency there must be joint selection meetings to choose candidates. That process should be started now. There must be one election campaign, not two. There should be joint television appearances and joint meetings.

Liberals should make it clear that the deal was for one general election only, the priorities being to get the economy right, and to get proportional representation.

Tribune attack: The Tribune Group of Labour MPs issued a condemnation of the new party last night. "It is not the social democratic party", they said, "it is the Common Market party. It was started when it became clear that the Labour Party was going to adopt a policy of coming out of the Common Market."

Schoolboy tells of kidnap ordeal

By Jacob Ecclestone

A Huntingdon boy, Mark Thody, aged 16, spoke for the first time yesterday of how he had been kidnapped while on his way to school on Monday. He was released unharmed 36 hours later in Yorkshire, his captors having failed to keep a rendezvous to collect a £100,000 ransom.

Cambridgeshire police had asked the media to put a blackout on reports until the boy was safe. Late on Tuesday he was dumped from a car on the edge of a wood and given 15p to telephone his father.

He made his way to the Woodlands Hotel, at Micklefield, near the A1, a few miles east of Leeds. He asked for a cup of coffee, saying he thought he had been kidnapped. Earlier police had kept watch on Peterborough railway station, where the ransom money was to be collected. No contact was made.

Mr Marvyn Thody, a farmer and fruit and vegetable merchant, of Toseland Road, Graveley, near Huntingdon, drove to Leeds in a police car to be reunited with his son. He said: "I was overwhelmed, and so was Mark."

The boy said he had been forced into a car at knifepoint, blindfolded, and later sedated, by two men. "I was frightened at the time, but they did not do anything to me."

While going to Hinchingbrooke Comprehensive School on his moped he had been forced off the road by a car which had been following him. One of two men inside threatened him with a knife and ordered him to lie out of sight in the back seat. Later, after being driven around for hours blindfolded, he was taken to a house for the night and the blindfold taken off.

The next day the blindfold was put on and again they drove around until the evening. Soon after 10 pm his captors took him into a wood, made him lie face down and warned him not to move for half an hour.

Mr Thody told how the kidnappers made contact with him. A telephone caller to his office twice refused to give a name to Mr Thody's secretary.

In the second call he was told where the boy's moped could be found and that detailed instructions on a ransom would be sent to a local post office.

Police intercepted what they described as a "detailed, clear and concise" typewritten note giving details of how the £100,000 was to be paid. The money was to be packed into an attaché case, labelled with the boy's name and given to a taxi driver to take to Peterborough station.

There, according to the police, it was to have been collected by someone who would ask whether the taxi driver had a parcel for him.

The note ended by giving a warning that unless the money was paid the boy would be "disposed of".

He told police that his abductors' car was a two-door, greenish Vauxhall Viva with torn upholstery.

Mr Stanley Crump, Cambridgeshire's Assistant Chief Constable (Operations), said his priorities had been the boy's safety, the protection of the money and the arrest of those responsible. He added: "I do not expect any early developments. I should think it would be a long, hard inquiry."

Photograph by Brian Harris

Mark Thody (right) with his father after his release.

Strike cutting off 40% of revenue, civil servants say

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Leaders of striking civil servants stated yesterday that their industrial action was cutting off about two fifths of the Government's revenue and had trebled state borrowing.

In a financial assessment of their disruption, the unions said that information supplied by "moles" working during the dispute suggested a shortfall of £920m in tax income in the first two weeks of selective stoppages.

Mr Campbell Christie, deputy general secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, said the Treasury had resorted to "siege accounting" because of the strikes by staff at the VAT computer centre in Southend and the Inland Revenue computers at Shipley, West Yorkshire, and Cumbernauld, near Glasgow.

The Council of Civil Service Unions' financial appraisal argues: "In the first two weeks of strike action the Customs and Excise Department banked only £99m of VAT, compared with a normal level of about £700m for a two-week period."

The unions' assessment of the cash impact of their industrial action was published as further strikes were sanctioned in east coast ports and the Chatham naval dockyard and at the Paymaster-General's office in Crawley.

Action by more than 300 customs staff working in ports from Sheerness to Hull is designed to blockade cargo traffic to and from Germany, Holland and the United Kingdom. Officers are on strike at Sheerness, Harwich, Ipswich, Felixstowe and Hull, and are working to rule at Lowestoft, King's Lynn, Grimsby, Immingham and Goole.

In Liverpool, nine Ministry of Defence computer staff walked out, and the unions said their action will hold up [illegible] worth of payments made each week to defence contractors.

Officials of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation last night said that the Inland Revenue management was using Milton Bridge army training camp in the Glencorse barracks, south of Edinburgh, to write cheques that would normally go to the strikebound Cumbernauld offices.

IRSF pickets are expected at the depot this morning after they followed GPO officials in a car chase through central Scotland yesterday.

Parliamentary report, page [illegible]

Democrats in local poll pacts

By Ian Bradley

At least two local pacts have been made between Liberals and social democrats to fight county council elections in May.

In the Lincoln area six social democrats and five Liberals will contest different seats on Lincolnshire County Council. A similar arrangement in the Scunthorpe area will involve three Liberals and three social democrats standing for election to Humberside County Council.

In both cases Liberals and social democrats have agreed not to stand against each other and to assist the other party.

A similar alliance may be formed in Lancashire after a meeting of local social democrats last night.

Mr Michael Connolly, the Lancashire regional organizer of the Social Democratic Alliance, said yesterday that he was strongly in favour of a pact under which Liberals and social democrats would agree to divide county council seats between them and support each other. There is to be a meeting between local Liberals and social democrats next Wednesday.

Leaked paper tells of hesitation by 'Gang'

By Our Political Reporter

The leaked Social Democrat document shows that in early December the so-called Gang of Three and other Labour MPs were near to a break with the Labour Party, but were still hesitating on the brink.

The extracts below illustrate that there was still serious discussion that initially the social democrats should organize themselves to fight within the Labour Party—a Social Democrat tendency to fight the Trotskyist Militant Tendency, and others.

Some of our closest allies see Roy still as their political leader, others count him as a friend but do not see him as the political leader in the 1980s but as contributing powerfully to the campaign for social democracy. Others see him as a liability, linked to the Liberal-centre party concept and not a social democrat.

The maximum unity can only be achieved if it is accepted that any social democratic organization will be based on one member, one vote, and that therefore the membership will determine the roles of individuals, but that before such decisions there should be a collective leadership.

The problem with leaving this leadership issue blurred is threefold. Firstly, Roy has in the past been accepted as our leader and for four and a half years was actually voted for as our leader; a natural tendency if the issue is not resolved will be for him to emerge as our leader.

Secondly, Roy is older, therefore letting him emerge as the leader now satisfies the ambitions of those younger by leaving the issue open. Thirdly, the media will want a leader—particularly if we widen it out from the Gang of Three which has been accepted as a collective leadership.

If we have an electoral college, is the Labour Party saveable? And saveable means more than just prior to a 1983-84 election but afterwards as well. In essence the choice is soldiering on, possibly breaking near to an election, or facing the key question now as to whether it is possible to envisage the equivalent of a Bad Godesberg (a reference to the West German Social Democratic formation) during the 1980s.

If this is not conceivable the unacceptability of allowing Britain to have after 25 years a further 10 years of bad government outweigh the real danger that splitting the left could allow the right a sustained period of government, longer than the 13 years between 1951-1964.

The question then becomes how to split; timing is a tactical decision, but given the risks associated with the whole enterprise there is an important need to reduce the risks to the minimum and consider carefully all issues. . . .

Lambeth ratepayer's study 'made horrifying reading'

Council accused of overspending and extreme political excesses

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Lambeth council was guilty of financial mismanagement and the needless excesses of an extreme political faction, a report into the borough's spending, published yesterday, concludes.

Mr Bruce Gregory, finance manager of an international company, who is also a Lambeth ratepayer, examined the council accounts for the past decade and compiled a report which he sent to Mr William Shelton, Conservative MP for Lambeth, Streatham, and Mr Robin Pitt, Conservative leader of the opposition on the council.

Commenting on the report, they said it made horrifying reading.

They have written to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, urging him to review and strengthen the procedures followed by the district auditor, and to consider imposing a continuing audit on the ratepayers' behalf.

Mr Gregory's report shows that Lambeth council's spending has increased by 90 per cent in the past two years, 1.6 times as fast as inflation, and partly explained by a 17 per cent increase in staff from 8,900 to 10,400.

The report also says that in the past three years Lambeth council's spending has almost doubled, from £88m to £170m.

Mr Gregory claims that the council's essential services, such as cleaning and refuse collection, road maintenance, residential care, meals on wheels and children's homes, have grown roughly in line with inflation, with no significant expansion in two years.

These are contrasted with community education and consumer advice, which show a spending increase of 165 per cent, central administration spending, up by 72 per cent, town planning, up by 84 per cent, housing debt charges, increased by 74 per cent, liaison and public relations spending up by 69 per cent, and social work and research spending, increased by 53 per cent.

Mr Gregory singled out the phenomenal increase in housing and building spending which he says was caused by an ambitious expansion in property development, and by overspending against original estimated costs.

Compared with other councils, Lambeth's total spending was higher than any other London borough, and its expenditure per head of population had been growing much faster than the average of inner London boroughs.

The report concludes: "Lambeth has serious problems of overspending; there have not been solved. Unitl they are, rates will continue to rise much faster than private income. This is avoidable if the electors of Lambeth refuse to tolerate financial mismanagement and the needless excesses of an extreme political faction."

Thatcher promise on Ulster studies

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

In a rare reference to the controversial joint studies being carried out by officials from the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, the Prime Minister yesterday gave an undertaking that if they "led the two governments to make recommendations on matters of policy" they would be placed before both parliaments in the normal way.

The statement is meant to be innocuous. But, coming after Mrs Margaret Thatcher complained in Maastricht to Mr Haughey, the Taioseach, over the damage she saw done to the studies by an interview given by Mr Lenihan, Irish Foreign Minister, to the *Irish Tribune* at the weekend, the statement will doubtless be studied for special meaning by Ulster politicians.

The Prime Minister has made clear several times that there is *no* question of "constitutional" issues being discussed in the studies, but she has refused to make a Commons statement on her meeting with Mr Haughey last December.

Mrs Thatcher's statement yesterday was in the form of a written parliamentary reply

Councillor shot at his home in Belfast

From a Staff Reporter
Belfast

A Belfast city councillor, Samuel Miller, was shot at h home in Denmark Street, in t city, last night. He had leg a abdominal wounds.

Mr Miller, aged 42, who w believed to have been attack by three men was elected in recent by-election as an In pendent Unionist. He has cl associations with the Ul Defence Association, the m Protestant paramilitary grou Northern Ireland.

Meanwhile, police in Dub said yesterday, that they w treating the attack on George Armstrong, the executive shot three times the legs while lecturing Trinity College, as an isola incident.

Mr Armstrong was flown England yesterday morn and was taken to Coventry a Warwickshire Hospital, Cov try, where he was visited by wife and three children. was said to be comfortable.

Nobody had claimed respon bility for the attack by la last night, and the police a working on the assumption th it was a "freelance" actio Both the Provisional IRA a the National H-Blocks Comm tee denied involvement.

Mr Leonard Figg, the Brit Ambassador to Irelan described security in t republic as being as good anywhere in Western Eu "Awful though the ou was, we must keep it in spective. It was an isolated and, seen against the enorm number of British visitors, i perhaps not too much.

"It would be a great pity this caused any diminution the close personal links betw the United Kingdom and t republic."

However, the Irish Develo ment Agency and the Iris Tourist Board were concern about the impact.

Pressure intensifies for phone tap law

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

The Government came under further pressure last night to accept statutory provisions on telephone tapping when Conservative and Labour backbenchers joined forces in tabling an amendment to the British Telecommunications Bill.

More than forty Tory backbenchers are threatening a revolt if the Government resists the demands in the report stages debate next week. Last night Mr John Gorst, a leading Tory campaigner, joined with Mr John Golding, a Labour MP and member of the Post Office Engineering Union, in tabling an amendment that will be backed by the Opposition.

The amendment removes some of the objections made by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, in that it does not call for parliamentary accountability, a proposal that was accepted when the Bill was at its committee stage.

Under the Gorst-Golding proposal, the statutory provisions would make it a criminal offence to intercept any message carried on the public telecommunications system or to instigate any person in the business of the corporation to intercept a message or disclose the contents of a message unless a warrant had been issued.

'Rabble' remark revived in Labour clash

By Our Political Reporter

Criticism of the Labour Party's National Executive Committee by Mr Denis Healey, deputy leader of the party, involved him in a clash with Mr Eric Heffer, a prominent leftwinger, yesterday.

Mr Heffer complained at a meeting of the NEC that Mr Healey and Mr Peter Shore, Opposition spokesman on economic affairs, had been making critical speeches against the majority.

When Mr Healey interjected with the remark, "that rabble over there", a reference to a comment made by Mr Heffer at last year's party conference, Mr Heffer bristled and said he had been misunderstood.

His comments at the party conference had been made while he was barracked during his speech, he said; he had not meant to direct his remarks to where the MPs were sitting.

The national executive agreed yesterday to start this year's conference at Brighton on Sunday night so that balloting could take place for the election of leader and deputy under the formula adopted by the Wembley special conference.

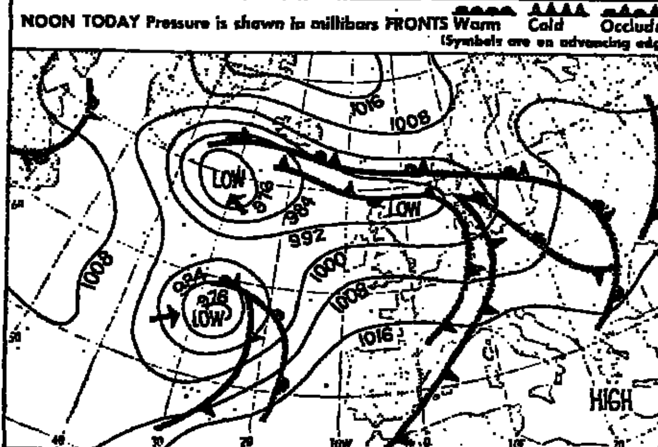
Mr Michael Foot, leader of the party, voted for the proposal and Mr Healey against, and it was eventually carried by 16 votes to 11.

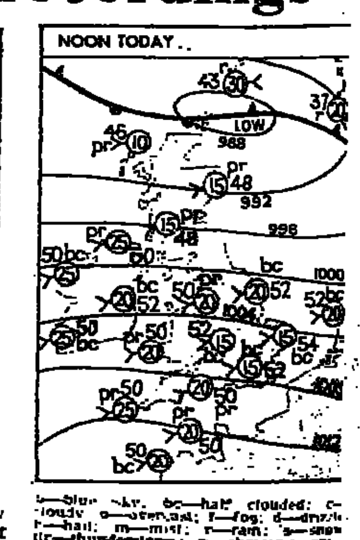
National Gallery gets two Corots

The National Gallery has been given its most important group of paintings for nine years. The gift, which includes two Corots, comes from Mrs Alice Bleecker, niece and one of the heirs of Rudolf Brandt, the banker, who originally collected the works.

[illegible]

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 5.50 am
Sun sets: 6.24 pm
Moon sets: 8.42 am
Moon rises: 12.26 am tomorrow

Last Quarter: March 28.

Lighting up: 6.54 pm to 5.18 am. High Water: London Bridge 4.58 am, 6.7m; 5.16 pm, 6.7m; Avonmouth 10.04 am, 11.8m; 10.17 pm, 11.5m; Dover 1.51 am, 6.1m; 2.06 pm, 5.8m, Hull 9.25 am, 6.7m; 9.42 pm, 6.6m; Liverpool 2.09 am, 8.3m; 2.20 pm, 8.1m.
1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft

A ridge of high pressure will move NE into the British Isles.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, Central S, Central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals; scattered showers; wind W, moderate or fresh; maximum temp 12°C (54°F).

SE, E England, East Anglia: Rather cloudy; showers at first; sunny periods and mostly dry later; wind W, fresh, decreasing to moderate; maximum temp 12° or 13°C (54° or 55°F).

SW England, S Wales: Sunny intervals and showers, dying out later, but more general rain from SW by midnight; wind W, moderate or fresh, backing S, strong; max temp 11° or 12°C (52° to 54°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Sunny intervals and showers, some heavy; wind W, fresh, backing S; max temp 10°C (50°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, more general rain at first; wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 9° or 10°C (48° to 50°F).

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Periods of rain, some heavy, scattered showers later, with some sunny intervals; wind variable, light, becoming NW, fresh; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Central Highlands, NW Scotland: outbreaks of rain, becoming more showery, sunny intervals; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Orkney, Shetland: Periods of rain, heavy at times; wind E, fresh, becoming variable; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mostly dry and bright ... E and N at first, but further rain will spread from the SW, becoming rather warm again.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Sea rough or very rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 15°C (59°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 11°C (52°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 82 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.05in. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, [illegible]. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,003 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Overseas selling prices

[illegible]

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	18	64	Cologne	f	19	66	Locarno	s	18	64	Oslo	c	4	39
Algiers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Copenhagen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	London	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Florence	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Luxembourg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Rome	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Athens	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Funchal	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Madrid	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Geneva	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Majorca	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Tel Aviv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gibraltar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Malaga	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Toronto	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Guernsey	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Malta	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vancouver	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Helsinki	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Miami	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Innsbruck	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Montreal	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Birmingham	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Istanbul	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Munich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Warsaw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bristol	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Jersey	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Nairobi	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Washington	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	L Palmas	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	New York	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chicago	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Lisbon	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Nice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]				

200 pigs are slaughtered because of disease

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

More than 200 pigs were destroyed on a farm at West Ardsley, West Yorkshire, yesterday because they were found to have swine vesicular disease. There were no outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease.

The two diseases are caused by viruses which produce similar effects in animals. But foot-and-mouth spreads much faster, affects many types of animal and is much less frequent in Britain.

Almost 2,000 animals have been slaughtered and buried this year because of both diseases at a cost of compensation to farmers of more than £... Last year nearly ...000 pigs were slaughtered because of swine vesicular disease.

In an attempt to avoid spreading foot-and-mouth disease, the Ramblers' Association has appealed to walkers to avoid the restricted areas of south Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Park closed: The Deer Park at Windsor was closed to the public yesterday, and barriers and warning signs were placed across all entrances, as a precaution against foot-and-mouth disease. The deer section is part of the 4,000-acre Great Park Estate in Berkshire

Foot-and-mouth fear at auction

Cattle sale goes ahead despite NFU warning

From John Witherow
Chichester

A cattle auction went ahead at Chichester market, West Sussex, yesterday despite warnings by the National Farmers' Union that it was irresponsible to hold one so close to the area restricted because of foot-and-mouth disease.

Many farmers, however, stayed away because of the outbreak in the Isle of Wight, and most pens remained empty. Only about a third of the cattle expected at a normal spring sale were put up for auction.

The NFU believe all movements of people and animals that could spread the disease should be discouraged, but the Ministry of Agriculture said the restricted area in the Isle of Wight and around the Solent is adequate at present to control the outbreak.

All visitors to the market at Chichester, which is about 20 miles east of the restricted zone, were made to drive and walk over disinfected straw at the entrance and exit.

Mr John Willis, the Chichester auctioneer, defended the sale and said he had not been put under any pressure from the NFU to cancel it. "We have taken advice from the Ministry of Agriculture vets, and they said we can open", he said. "We have a duty to the public to provide a service.

He said all necessary precautions, including banning any cattle from the restricted area, had been observed, and added: "If I thought there was one shadow of risk in having the market, I would not hold it".

Farmers tend to buy stock in a spring sale; unusually, most of the cattle sold yesterday were for slaughter. Farmers from Hampshire were discouraged from buying because of the risk of taking animals into a restricted area.

One farmer, Mr Jack Brazier, of Arundel, said the market was "ridiculous" because so few cattle were for sale because of the danger of the outbreak spreading.

Mr Roderick Kynoch, a Ministry of Agriculture veterinary surgeon, who was checking the animals, said the sale could proceed because it was *outside* the restricted area.

An official of the south-east region of the NFU said, however, that because of strong winds and the possibility of birds carrying the disease, holding auctions so close to the restricted zone was an additional risk. The union wants all markets near the area, especially at Chichester, Haywards Heath and Guildford, to be cancelled for two weeks.

Woman wins Peace tax fight

From Our Correspondent
York

Miss Jennie Aste, a peace campaigner, of York, has won the right to pay 40 per cent of her income tax by separate cheque because she wants it diverted directly to the Ministry of Overseas Development to help the needy.

Miss Aste, aged 28, a self-employed bookbinder, took her case to the Inland Revenue through Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York. She plans to help others to get the same concession through the Peace Tax Campaign.

Our Business News Staff writes: An Inland Revenue official said yesterday that they were still making inquiries about the case.

It seems unclear what practical consequence, if any, the ruling will have. An individual's income tax bill is not allocated in whole or in part to any Government department.

Equally, authority to spend money as far as the Ministry of Defence or the Ministry of Overseas Development is concerned is in no way connected to individual income tax payments.

Miss Aste may get moral satisfaction from the arrangements which could follow her victory. In practice, however, all money collected by the Government in whatever form ends up in the Treasury.

BR plea for £5,700m modernization

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

A modernization plan for Britain's railways that would require overall investment of £5,700m in electrified main lines, improved commuter services, low-cost rural railways and a Channel tunnel was announced by British Rail yesterday.

Investment should be raised from £306m to £567m a year until 1990, British Rail states; without it, the railways will continue to decline and 3,000 miles of track will have to close.

Introducing the proposals at a press conference in London, Sir Peter Parker, the chairman, said: "We are not trying to terrorize the taxpayer but to keep the picture steadily in view. There are certain things in this package we must do, and others we could do to point the railways in the right direction.

"We are entirely realistic about the state of the economy, and we are asking for a commitment first and cash later.

British Rail proposes a new contract with the Government to pay for the "social railway", *those parts that are uneconomic* but socially valuable, and greater private sector involvement in the commercial service, for freight, parcels, and intercity passenger transport.

After years of under-investment the railways were reaching a "dividing of the ways" between an improved railway and a run-down of the system. British Rail could not continue the present investment policy beyond 1983; decisions needed to be taken this year about the direction thereafter.

The main decision to be taken in "weeks rather than months, and days rather than weeks", Sir Peter said, was approval for main-line electrification costing about £1,000m over 20 years. A joint British Rail and Department of Transport study reported recently that the scheme would yield an 11 per cent real return, and Sir Peter described it as the backbone

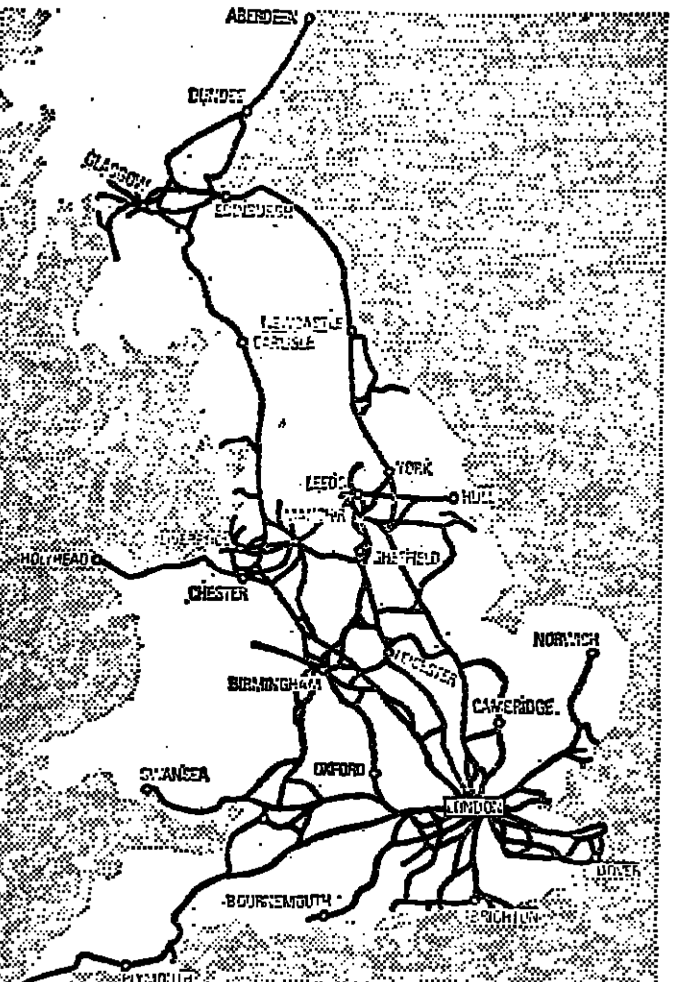
A reduction of 38,000 in staff over the next five years is envisaged, with the reduced workforce earning higher real wages. Whatever productivity gains were made, extra investment funds would still be needed, Sir Peter said.

The proposed increase in annual investment would cover renewal of worn-out assets, including catching up on the present backlog of replacements (72m a year up to 1990); improving London and South-east commuter services (97m more a year); main line electrification (£36m a year); improved services to Gatwick airport and possibly Stanstead (£10m a year); and BR's share on a Channel tunnel (£51m a year).

Another area for investment would be improving staff working conditions, which have suffered badly in recent years.

The report concludes that "there is no serious doubt in anyone's mind that a railway network of major proportions is necessary to the efficient operation of the country as a whole, and that it is of considerable benefit to millions of people who travel for leisure or holiday purposes".

Leading article, page 15



The routes BR wants to electrify over 20 years.

COMPARATIVE INVESTMENT IN EUROPEAN RAILWAYS IN 1980	
West Germany	£918m
France	£827m
Italy	£774m
Britain	£411m
Belgium	£346m
Netherlands	£191m
Denmark	£67m
Irish Republic	£21m
Luxembourg	£15m

Source: *International Railway Journal.*

Britain's railway system has reached a point at which the nation must choose between investment in improvement or letting the system run down, the report says. The consequences for 1990 are as follows:

The former would mean:

Electrified trains from London to Blackpool, Derby, Doncaster, Leeds, Nottingham, Oxford, Sheffield, and work well advanced to Bristol, South Wales and Edinburgh

Advanced Passenger Trains from Euston, King's Cross and St Pancras to Scotland and many cities in England

High Speed Trains (Inter-city 125) transferred to upgrade cross-country routes

New electric trains for many London commuter services as well as in East Anglia and Scotland

New lightweight trains giving better value for money on rural lines

Improved punctuality, reliability and cleanliness

Improved ticketing and more joint ticketing

Extensive modernization of stations, including where appropriate bus stations; with linked timetables between bus and train

Express trains to airports like Gatwick and perhaps Stansted

Improved freight and parcels services:

Letting the system run down would mean:

3,000 miles of track, rising rapidly, withdrawn from traffic for lack of maintenance

800 miles of track carrying speed restrictions withdrawn from traffic for lack of maintenance

Signal failures up from 4 per cent to 10 per cent annually

Train delays up from 5,000 hours now to 8,500 hours, rising

Locomotive availability down from 75 to 50 per cent

Electric multiple unit availability down from 85 to 70 per cent

Diesel multiple units availability down from 80 to 60 per cent

Loco-hauled coach availability down from 85 to 75 per cent.

Mr Harold West fights Fermanagh by-election

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Mr Harold West, landowner, large-scale farmer, veteran of political intrigues in Northern Ireland and former MP, is to contest the Fermanagh and South Tyrone by-election for Official Unionists, the party he once led.

His selection ended any chance of finding a compromise candidate between the Official Unionists, historically the party of government, and the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party.

The DUP, for once outmanoeuvred by its bitter rivals, was in disarray last night. There is no prospect of its offering support to Mr West because of his inextricable association with the party that Mr Paisley has been deriding, with increasing venom, for a decade.

The DUP's troubles worsened yesterday when Mr Roy Kells, a part-time Ulster Defence Regiment lieutenant with no party political affiliations, who is something of a local celebrity after surviving two IRA attacks and four bombing raids on his drapery store, decided not to stand.

He was being supported by the DUP and the small United Unionist Party, which had hoped he would also be acceptable to the Official Unionists.

Mr Kells withdrew as soon as he learnt that Mr West was standing. "I will be a unity candidate for the thre parties or nothing", he declared.

With four days to go before nominations close, the Fermanagh Imperial Association of the DUP meets in Enniskillen tonight to consider two choices: to find another candidate in a hurry, or to withdraw from the contest. The former is the more likely.

On the anti-unionist side, the Irish Independence Party is considering whether to put up a candidate, and the Social Democratic and Labour Party will select a candidate tonight. Other contenders are Mrs Bernadette McAliskey and Mr Noel Maguire, brother of the late MP.

Mr West, aged 64 tomorrow, led the Official Unionists for five years before resigning soon after a dismal performance in the European Assembly elections in the summer of 1979.

White-collar pickets slow production of BL cars

From Clifford Webb
Birmingham

White-collar pickets sealed off BL's Longbridge car plant yesterday, preventing deliveries of components and slowing production of the Metro, Mini and Allegro models.

The strike, in protest against 120 compulsory redundancies, was supported by all but a handful of the 4,500 staff. The solidarity of the response and the militancy displayed by a normally moderate section of the workforce took the management by surprise.

Managers and superintendents kept internally stocked components flowing to the assembly lines, operating a computer-controlled components warehouse for the Metro.

But few external supplies got through and there was a shortage of engines normally delivered by lorry

The two-day strike is due to end tonight, to be followed by as yet undisclosed action by the four unions involved.

Report links illness and bad housing

By John Young
Planning Reporter

High rates of infectious diseases, respiratory ailments and mental illness among tenants on a Liverpool council estate were directly linked to unsatisfactory housing conditions, a government report published yesterday suggests.

Infectious diseases were traced to the unhygienic conditions of mobile food vans which took advantage of the lack of shops on the estate.

Respiratory illnesses were believed by doctors to be connected with defects in the ducted warm air system, dampness from drying clothes in flats because drying rooms had been made unusable by vandals, and lack of fresh air among children whose parents were afraid to let them out.

Depression among isolated housewives was particularly common, the report statfies.

Several serious accidents had included that of a young child falling off a balcony.

The North Lee estate, Liverpool, is one of several examples of unpopular housing examined in the report by the Department of the Environment's housing development directorate. Together they provide a grim picture of lives that have been needlessly worsened by indifferent local authority management and by insensitive architectural design.

The report, *An investigation of difficult to let housing*, is one of several which were published together yesterday, and to which Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, referred in a speech to a conference in London organized by the Housing Centre Trust.

Mr Stanley reaffirmed his belief that the best way of improving housing conditions was to make home ownership available to as wide a public as possible.

He announced that the grant limits on properties improved by local authorities and housing associations for subsequent sale was to be raised from £5,000 to £10,000 in London, and to £7,500 elsewhere.

RSPCA loses a test case on chicken cruelty

A test case brought by the RSPCA against a chicken producer, alleging failure to ensure painless deaths of fowls for human consumption, was dismissed yesterday. The case, which has important implications for Britain's chicken industry, was due to last three days but was dismissed within three hours.

The RSPCA had brought a total of 90 charges against four men and a chicken company, alleging that an unknown number of birds, estimated at more than 120, had been slaughtered without first being anaesthetized.

A total of 18 charges were made against the company, Sovercenda (Chickens) Ltd, of Willow Road, Brackley, Northamptonshire, and 72 against four men.

The alleged incidents took place between May 9 and September 6 last year. Mr John ...nch, for the defence, argued at Brackley Magistrates' Court that the court did not have jurisdiction to hear the case because the summonses had not been properly examined by a legally qualified clerk

Attacker armed with crossbow sought by police

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

West Midlands police were yesterday hunting for the attacker of two men, one of whom was shot in the neck by a bolt fired from a crossbow.

Mr Caramat Hussein was standing in the street near his home in Small Heath, Birmingham, on Tuesday when a green Vauxhall Viva drew up and a man leant out of the window and fired at him.

He was taken to East Birmingham Hospital for an emergency operation to remove the bolt, and yesterday his condition was not serious.

Soon afterwards Mr Richard Coates, aged 50, of Keynsham, near Bristol, was returning to his car in a car park at the Tivoli Centre, in Coventry Road, Birmingham, when he disturbed a man apparently trying to break into it.

Mr Coates was struck on the head by what appeared to be a hand-gun and threatened

The man ran off, chased by two members of the public, and discharged the gun. Mr Coates was treated for head injuries and discharged.

Charge over demolition

By Our Planning Reporter

A private prosecution for the allegedly illegal demolition last year of a group of listed seventeenth-century almshouses is to be heard by magistrates in Grantham, Lincolnshire, today.

The defendant is Sir Bruno Welby, owner of the cottages. The prosecution has been brought by Mr David Pearce, secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. It is believed to be the first private prosecution under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971.

Witness tells of policeman's request

From Michael Horsnell
Middlesbrough

A former criminal, alleged by the Crown to have been in the grip of a corrupt London detective, said in Teesside Crown Court yesterday that the officer demanded £200 in return for helping him over an arrest.

Mr Michael Perry alleged that at subsequent meetings three instalments of £50 were paid to the policeman, Detective Sergeant John Symonds, and that all payments were observed and tape recorded by reporters from The Times who were investigating police corruption.

At one of the recorded meetings Mr Symonds told him he would give him a licence to commit crime backed by a "firm within a firm"—a network of corrupt London policemen, he said.

The jury were played tapes of conversations said to have been between the two men. At one stage Mr Symonds joked: "You have not got this bugged or something, have you" Mr Perry replied: "Put a hankie over your mouth or something".

Mr Symonds, aged 45, denies three charges of corruptly accepting a total of £150 from Mr Perry during October and November, 1959.

The Crown alleges that the former detective fled the country before his trial at the Central Criminal Court in 1972 and returned only last year, and that he first met Mr Perry on September 24, 1969, at Camberwell police station, in south London, where he was based.

Mr Perry, then aged 22, from Peckham, south London, had been arrested by provincial detectives in connexion with the theft of some cigarettes from a Co-operative store in Nuneaton.

Mr Perry told the court: "While I was in the cell Mr Symonds poked his head round the door and we had a conversation. He said someone had told him to see me. I had never spoken to him before.

"He said if the Coventry police asked what he was doing there, to tell them he was inquiring about some clothes found at my flat . . . I took that just to be an excuse for him to be in the cell.

"He said: 'I do not think they have got anything on you, but if they have got a fingerprint tell them you will plead guilty to Section 1 theft, because that only carries 12 months maximum'."

Mr Perry thanked him and said he would "see him all right" at a later date. In October Mr Perry received a letter from the police at Nuneaton telling him that proceedings would not be brought.

Shortly before that he had met Mr Symonds outside the Rose public house, in Camberwell, when, Mr Perry said: "He told me that I would get off the Nuneaton job and he said it would cost £200. I thought he was being a bit greedy. I had a sum of £25 in mind."

Later that month Mr Perry decided to "say something to somebody" and was introduced to Mr Gareth Lloyd, a reporter from *The Times*.

The trial continues today.

Secondary pupils should study curriculum of at least six subjects, government paper says

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

All secondary school pupils should study mathematics, science, English, religious education, a humanities subject and physical education up to the age of 16, the Government says in a paper on the school curriculum, published yesterday.

It is the first time since the passing of the Education Act, 1944, that a government has offered guidance on what ought to be taught in schools. Local authorities will be asked to report back after two years, explaining what progress they have made towards meeting the objectives set out in the paper.

Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, accepted yesterday that he had no power to force local authorities to comply, but he said a circular would be issued shortly and in practice local authorities feel they have a responsibility to act.

The paper points out that while the Government has a duty to promote education, and to that extent is required to take an overall view of the content and quality of education, it was up to local authorities, school governing bodies and teachers to decide on the detailed content of the curriculum.

Throughout the paper the need to achieve a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils is emphasized. Too many pupils were allowed to drop key subjects, particularly from the age of 14.

Excessive emphasis on examinations could also lead to distortions in the programmes of individual pupils. A combination of examination courses did not always provide a balanced curriculum.

In addition to the six-subject "core" curriculum, opportunities should be provided for practical and aesthetic activity, and for experience with computers; and as many pupils as possible should be encouraged to continue to study a foreign language up to the age of 16.

At primary level, the curriculum should include mathematics, English, science, history, geography, religious education, physical education and aesthetic and practical studies. French should be introduced only where there was a qualified teacher and assured coordination with secondary schools.

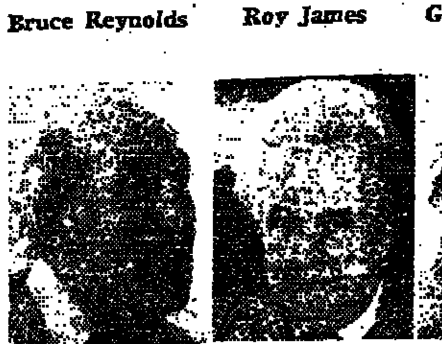
Throughout the paper, it is emphasized that how something is taught is as important as what is taught. Guidance had been issued on subjects, but a subject title did not indicate the content or level of study, or the extent to which it was meeting learning objectives.

Some essential educational elements were not found in particular subjects, but should be provided across the curriculum. They included an understanding of the multicultural nature of British society, the effects of technology on employment, and the equality of men and women.

Another essential area was personal and social development. Every school should make clear to parents its aims in moral education, and would soon be required under new regulations to publish information on the ways and contexts in which sex education is provided.

The Government's discussion document, *A framework for the curriculum*, published a year ago, contained controversial proposals that minimum periods of time should be allocated to certain key subjects such as mathematics. Those have been dropped from the latest paper because the Government feared that the minima would either be treated as norms or interpreted too rigidly.

The school curriculum (Department of Education and Science and the Welsh Office, Stationery Office; £2).



Bruce Reynolds Roy James Gordon Goody James Hussey Charles Wilson









Tommy Wisbey Roger Cordrey James White Robert Welch Ronald Edwards

All except Ronald Biggs have served out sentences

Eleven men who robbed the train and have now been released

By a Staff Reporter

Eleven men were convicted for their part in the Great Train Robbery of August 8, 1963. Apart from Ronald Biggs, who has been at large since escaping from prison in 1965, all have served jail sentences and been released. The 11 are:

Ronald Biggs: Sentenced to 30 years, he escaped from Wandsworth prison in July, 1965, when an armed gang broke in and released him with three other prisoners. He has been living in Brazil, successfully resisting attempts at extradition.

Roger Cordrey: A former florist, he was sentenced to 20 years after admitting the crime and was released after serving seven years.

Ronald "Buster" Edwards: Evaded capture for three years, went to Mexico, but surrendered in September 1966. Sentenced to 15 years, he was released on parole in April, 1975, but went back to prison the same year after being convicted for stealing goods worth £65 from Harrods in London. On his final release set up a flower stall at Waterloo station, in London.

Gordon Goody: A former hairdresser, sentenced to 30 years and released on parole in 1976. Sold vegetables from a lorry in south London.

James Hussey: Former house painter, sentenced to 30 years and released in December, 1975. Worked on market stalls in London.

Roy James: A talented racing driver and silversmith, he was caught by the Flying Squad four months after the robbery in a rooftop chase in St John's Wood, London. Sentenced to 30 years, he was paroled in August, 1975, and became a builder and decorator.

Bruce Reynolds: A former antique dealer, he evaded capture for five years, living in Mexico and the south of France, and was arrested in a villa in Torquay in November, 1968. He was sentenced to 25 years in January, 1969, and released after serving 10 years.

Robert Welch: A former club proprietor, he was sentenced to 30 years and released on parole in June, 1976. On his release he became a car dealer.

James White: A former paratrooper, he was the quartermaster for the robbery, responsible for stores and vehicles. He evaded capture for three years but was arrested in April, 1966, and sentenced to 18 years' imprisonment. He was released in April, 1975, and became a painter and decorator.

Charles Wilson: A former bookmaker, he was sentenced to 30 years but escaped from Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, in August, 1964, four months after the end of the trial. He eluded capture until January, 1968, when he was arrested by Chief Supt Tommy Butler and 50 Mounties near Montreal, in Canada. He was released in December, 1978.

Tommy Wisbey: Another former bookmaker, he was sentenced to 30 years and released on parole in March, 1976.

Lords told of closed shop's three 'bad men'

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Lord Gowrie, Ministry c State at the Department c Employment, last night steppe up the Government's campaig against the closed shop whe he took the unusual course c naming the chairman of th Sandwell Council, West Mi lands, its personnel director an a local trade union official "thoroughly bad men by an normal ethical standards".

He told the House of Lor during a debate on the close shop policies of certain loc authorities that their actior were "thoroughly wicked".

The men named by Lor Gowrie were Mr John Edward chairman of the council th dismissed Miss Joanna Harr for refusing to join a trac union, Mr Hodgetts, the perso nel director, and Mr Faux, the National and Local Gover ment Officers' Association.

Lord Gowrie said he hop that the electors of Sandw were alert to the kind of actic being undertaken in their nam

Mr Faux, Lord Gowrie adde had faced council employe with the chance of joining t union or being dismissed a had said he had no conscien about doing so.

Councillor Edwards h claimed that his council had mandate from the electorate force union membership on employees.

Lord Bruce of Doningt from the Labour front benc said that if Miss Harris felt s had been maltreated or unfai dismissed then remedies we open to her.

Lord Gowrie's attack on Sar well council comes at a tir when the Government is bei pressed hard by sections of t Conservative Party to intr duce stricter legislation to co trol that aspect of industr relations.

The Prime Minister last we urged all those with experien of the operation of closed sh to submit their views to James Prior, Secretary of St for Employment.

Parliamentary report, page

Films 'could be lost forever'

By Kenneth Gosling

Rare film footage may be lost forever unless the public is given a greater awareness of its value to the heritage, Mr Anthony Smith, director of the British Film Institute, said last night.

Referring to a three-year standstill in the budget for the National Film Archive's 24-year programme for converting dangerous nitrate film to safety stock, Mr Smith called for a switch in the balance of national priorities in preservation.

The entire archive and all its expenses cost annually as much as a single important acquisition for the National Gallery, he said.

All that was now required, he told the Royal Society of Arts in London, was the equivalent of an additional small Impressionist painting to restore the momentum of the nitrate programme.

Second Oxford college to waive exam entrance

By Our Education Correspondent

A second Oxford college has decided to offer places to candidates on the basis only of an interview and the minimum university matriculation requirements, two grade Es at A level.

Balliol College announced yesterday that from next year it will be making unconditional offers to about twenty pupils a year from schools unable to provide special tuition for Oxbridge entrance:

Hertford College has operated an unconditional offer scheme open to pupils at any type of school since 1965. It won reluctant agreement from the other colleges earlier this year to expand the scheme to apply to 30 per cent of its intake.

Although Hertford's scheme has proved a resounding success, other colleges have until now refrained from following suit for fear that it would open the flood gates and lead to the demise of the university's entrance examination as the normal route of entry.

Three other colleges, including Oriel, are known to be considering introducing similar schemes.

Mr Colin Lucas, admissions tutor for Balliol, said that the chairman of the university's management committee, which represents the admissions tutors of all the colleges, had cleared Balliol's scheme under the agreement allowing colleges to make conditional offers up to a fifth of their intake without requiring candidates to take the entrance examination.

Proposals supported: The Counties yesterday gave its overcil of Local Education Authoriwhelming approval to proposals to set up a national body to finance, plan and rationalize higher education in the maintained sector.

The council decided that the new body should not finance public sector higher education by a direct grant from Government, as the University Grants Committee does, but should levy contributions from local authorities.

Challenge by MPs on sex life snooping

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Government is expected to respond today to growing disquiet about social security officials prying into the sex lives of single mothers.

Questions tabled by three Labour MPs ask how often information about sexual relationships is used in proceedings against putative fathers and how much money is recovered as a result.

The questions were tabled after disclosures about secret instructions to officials to ask detailed questions about sex lives where single mothers claiming supplementary benefits have not sought maintenance

The instructions, which the Department of Health and Social Security have confirmed are current, include asking when and where sexual intercourse first took place, how frequently afterwards and during what period of time.

Era ends for plane that never cost a life

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

British Airways' last VC10 airliner will make its final scheduled flight on Sunday from Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, to Heathrow, after which the fleet will be retired, having carried in 17 years about 13 million passengers without a fatality.

The aircraft is to be handed over to the Royal Air Force, which has purchased all 14 in the fleet.

The VC10, conceived by Vickers in 1957, was one of the last great individual products of the British aircraft manufacturing industry, but its purchase by British Overseas Airways Corporation, BA's predecessor, caused violent controversy.

When he was appointed chairman of BOAC in 1964 the late Sir Giles Guthrie tried to cancel the entire order of 30 Super VC10s and replace them with 14 Boeing 707s

But the plan was countermanded by Mr Julian Amery, the minister responsible, on the ground that it would do extensive injury to the British industry.

Doctors reject guidelines for psychosurgery

By Nicholas Timmins

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has rejected the idea of laying down guidelines on the treatment of patients by psychosurgery, in which a small part of the brain is destroyed in an attempt to alleviate psychiatric conditions such as severe depression.

It is, however, to advise its members that a second independent psychiatric opinion should be sought before a decision to operate is taken.

Professor Gerald Timbury, chairman of the public policy committee of the royal college, said yesterday: "We feel that guidelines similar to those we have published for ECT (Electro-convulsive therapy) are not required because the operation is performed very infrequently".

About seventy such operations are performed in England and Wales a year.

The college, however, is to study whether an independent panel should advise on the operation in the few cases where it is considered for patie detained under the Men Health Act.

The college's decision disclosed yesterday by Larry Gostin, legal director MIND, at an open day held the Geoffrey Knight Psyc surgical Unit at Brook Gene Hospital at Woolwich in sou east London, which perfor about two-thirds of the psyc surgery operations in Engla and Wales.

Mr Gostin said the advice seek a second opinion was " step forward, but probably n enough".

MIND favours the creation independent panels to exami cases, a proposal that may included in a new Ment Health Bill

The open day was held t the unit to counter criticis of the operation, which c involve side-effects. Dr Pa Bridges, the psychiatrist at th unit, said the operation w carried out as a last resort o patients who have not benefite from more conventional trea ments, such as drugs and EC

'That's Showbiz' to end early

After causing much dissension with performances on Sundays, the West End variety show, *That's Showbiz*, will close on Saturday, a week earlier than scheduled, because of heavy losses incurred in its seven-week run at the Phoenix Theatre.

Nevertheless the producers, Stephen and Fiona Kendall-Lane, still hope to mount a new variety show at the Phoenix, starting some time next month. A decision is expected in the next few days.

Actress misses a show

Barbara Windsor, the actress, who fainted on stage on Tuesday, did not appear in last night's performance of *Entertaining Mr Sloane* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, west London, on the instruction of her doctor. She hopes to return to the cast tonight.

Betting clerk's luck

Mrs May Toone, aged 50, of Baldock, Hertfordshire, gave up her job as a betting shop clerk at Letchworth yesterday, on hearing that she and her husband had won £268,000 on the pools. She said: "I always left the horses alone."

Motorists left in doubt after speeding decision

The RAC called on the Home Office yesterday to make an early statement about the use of police radar guns in speed traps. A motorist at Newport Crown Court, Gwent, on Tuesday won his appeal in a speeding case. Two electronics experts said the gun could give false readings, particularly if a police car radio near by was switched on.

An RAC official said yesterday: "It has resulted in many motorists who feel they were wrongly convicted being left in serious doubt whether they are entitled to a free pardon."

He added: "Since the introduction of radar guns the RAC has been concerned about ways in which they are used. Our earlier concern about these guns has been more than vindicated by the judge's decision."

Leicestershire may get new constituency

Leicestershire gets an extr constituency under provision recommendations issued toda by the Boundary Commissio for England.

At present it has eight co stituencies and part of on other. The commission reco mends that it should be repr sented by nine, the new co stituency of North-west Leice tershire being formed fro parts of Lougborough an Bosworth.

Big changes are also pro posed for the Rutland an Stamford constituency, wit Rutland amalgamating wit Melton. The commission ha already recommended tha Stamford should form part o a Lincolnshire constituency.

The proposals are the late in a general review of boun daries.

Lavatory dash costs £30

A motorist's high-speed dash to the lavatory cost him £30 yesterday. In his rush, Lawrence White, a company director, drove through a police radar trap at 90 mph.

But after hearing that he was suffering from diarrhoea, magistrates at Barnsley, South Yorkshire, decided to let him off lightly. Mrs Mary Thompson, the chairman, told him: "In view of the circumstances we shall only fine you £30 and endorse your licence."

Mr White, aged 45, of Grassmore Road, King's Norton West Midlands, pleaded guilty to speeding on the M1 at Barnsley. He told the court "I had diarrhoea and was anxious to get to the toilet.

"I should have stayed at home that day, but like a lot of people running small companies I could not afford to take the time off work. I am not a speed merchant and have been driving for 25 years with a clean licence."

Police chief asks blacks for help

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, spoke yesterday of the responsibility of black people to do something about law breakers in their midst. He also expressed concern about difficulties facing those investigating the Deptford fire, in which 13 black people died, and the state of race relations in London.

In an address at St Lawrence Jewry, London, Sir David said: "Where the black community has in its midst some who offend against the law then it is as much their responsibility to do something about it as it is mine—in the same way as it is my responsibility as commissioner to root out dishonesty and corruption within the Metropolitan Police". Sir David also drew attention to the difficulties inhibiting the investigation into the Deptford tragedy in his speech.

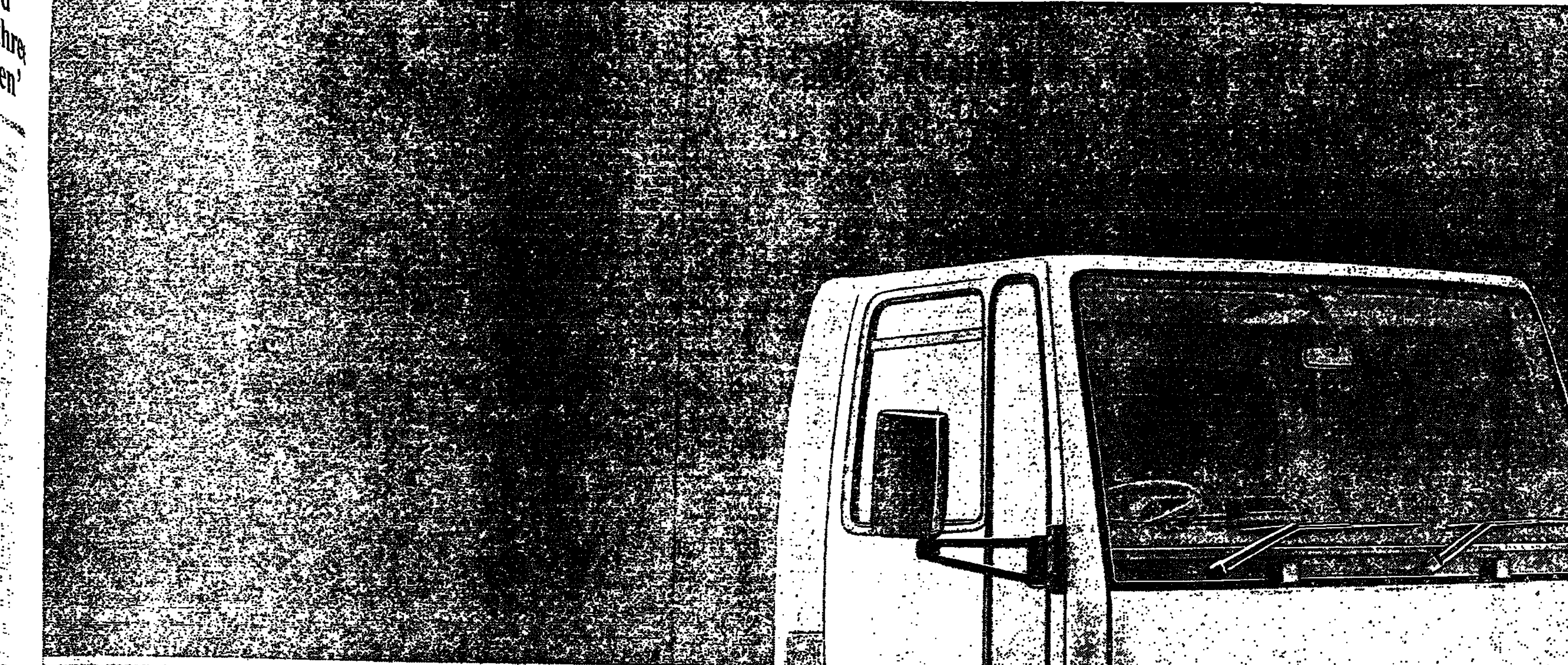
Scotland Yard yesterday dismissed as conjecture suggestions that the person or persons who started the Deptford fire died in it. A report was on its way to the Director of Public Prosecutions, who would decide what to do.

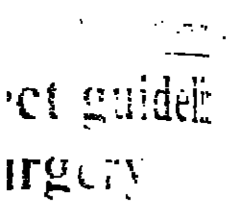
Sir David's address coincided with the release of Home Office statistics of serious offences recorded in 1980.

Homicides recorded included many associated with fires started deliberately; 47 deaths occurred in two London fires in March and August, 1980, and 23 deaths occurred in nine fires in the Hull area in the period 1973-78.

هكذا من الاصل

Lords told of closed shop's thre 'bad men'





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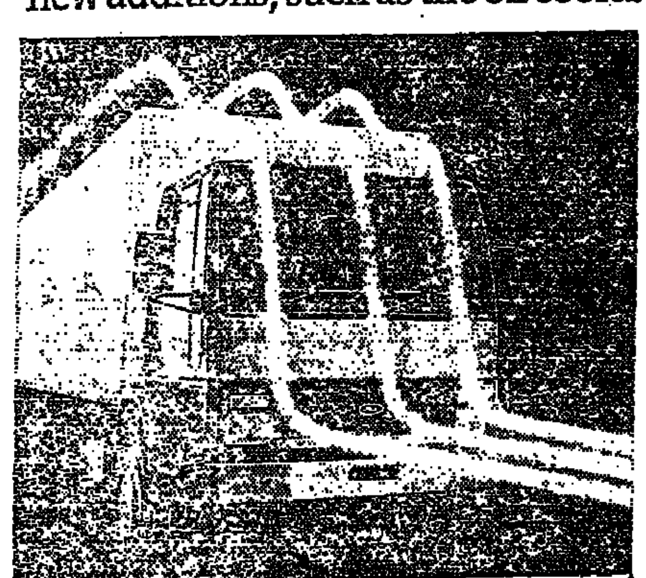
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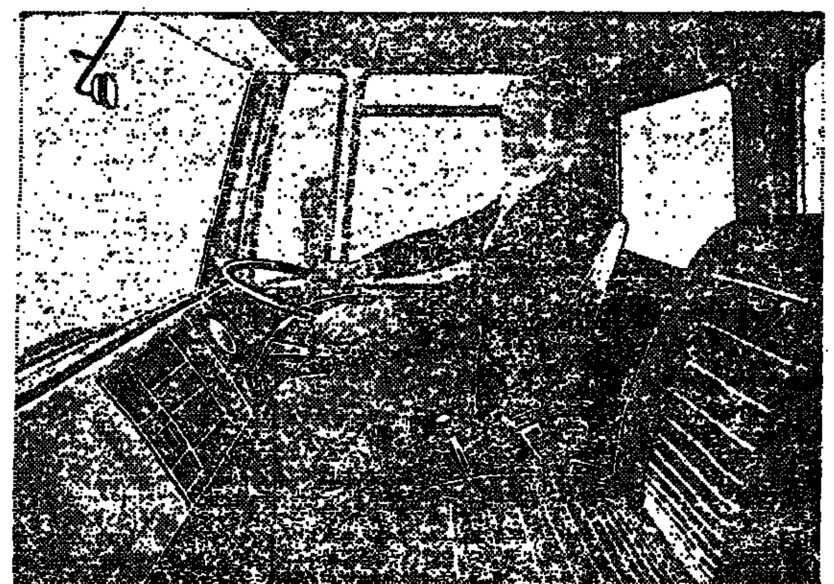
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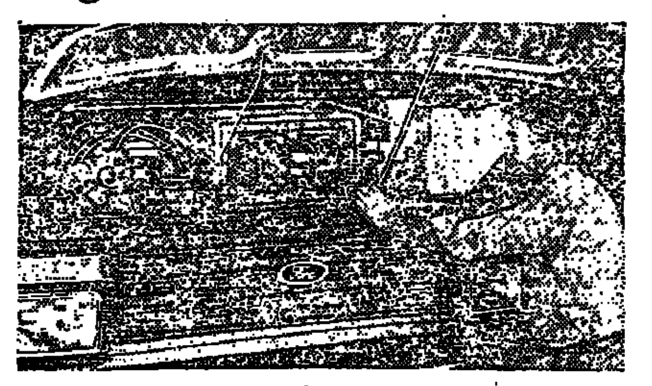
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Sir Roger : Questioned Soviet defector.

Sir Roger given Canadian secrets

By Our Foreign Staff

The allegations against Sir Roger Hollis brought swift, worldwide reaction.

In Ottawa, it was disclosed on Tuesday that Sir Roger was given security "confidences" while on a visit to Canada as an MI5 intelligence officer.

Mr Robert Kaplan, who as Solicitor-General is the Cabinet Minister primarily responsible for Canada's internal security, said in Montreal that he would be briefed by his departmental officials on just what intelligence was given to Sir Roger.

"What is known is that he was treated to confidences of the security of Canada". Mr Kaplan said. He would not say whether Canadian authorities now suspect that that intelligence was passed to foreign agents.

In the Commons on Tuesday, Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, said his recollection was that Mr Igor Gouzenko, who defected from the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa 35 years ago, told a Royal Commission about a mole inside MI5.

Sir Roger went to Canada to interview Mr Gouzenko in 1946, soon after Mr Gouzenko defected with documents revealing the existence of a large Soviet spy network in Canada.

Moscow Radio was quick to describe allegations that Sir Roger Hollis was a Soviet agent as a "concoction" aimed at stirring up anti-Soviet feeling and spurring on the arms race (Michael Binyon reports).

In an English language broadcast for overseas listeners on Monday the radio said the circulation of the allegations through the news media was being used as a pretext for another round in the arms drive and to expand the network of the Intelligence services.

The broadcast was heard only on Moscow's overseas service and was put out surprisingly swiftly after publication in the *Daily Mail* of the charges against Sir Roger.

Thatcher bid to calm the fears

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

The Prime Minister, in her statement to the Commons today on the allegations against Sir Roger Hollis intends to try to reassure the nation about the present state of the secret security services.

She expects to discuss the issue at this morning's Cabinet meeting, and then make what is described in Whitehall as a substantial attempt to deal with the wider matters reported in Mr Chapman Pincher's book *Their Trade is Treachery*.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's statement is being prepared on the basis of a report by Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary of the Cabinet, but the Prime Minister is authoritatively said to have seen several unnamed officials since her return from the EEC summit at Maastricht.

In those Whitehall quarters it is claimed that the timing of the Prime Minister's statement is related to the publication today of Mr Pincher's book, and that the serialization in the *Daily Mail* alone is not being relied on.

There has, however, been no disposition in official quarters to deny the substance of Mr Pincher's statement. Concern not to vilify dead men unnecessarily is of secondary importance.

In attempting her reassurance, Mrs Thatcher will be in a position to say how long she has known of the allegations and why she made no attempt to deal with them at the time of the Commons furore over Professor Anthony Blunt in November, 1979.

It was confirmed by the usual Whitehall sources that Mrs Thatcher received a letter from Mr Jonathan Aitken, Conservative MP for Thanet, East, in January, last year, detailing the allegations. The sources would not say whether Mrs Thatcher had known of the matter before then. The implication of their hesitance is that she was not told.

Mr Aitken has called for an inquiry into those who recruited Sir Roger on the ground that there may even now be second-generation moles in the secret services. In Whitehall there is no confirmation that Mrs Thatcher will agree to any new inquiry.

She, as is usual, will be taking steps to inform former prime ministers and the Leader of the Opposition of the contents of her statement before she rises in the Commons shortly after 3.30pm.

The former prime ministers apparently involved in the investigations of Sir Roger included Mr Edward Heath and Sir Harold Wilson.

The Hollis affair: The 'Daily Mail' text

Tom Driberg was a double agent, Chapman Pincher says

■ *This is the third instalment of the* Daily Mail's *exclusive account of "The Hollis Affair". The Times is republishing this material by agreement with the* Daily Mail.

Tom Driberg, or Baron Bradwell juxta Mare, as he was to become in 1975, was perhaps one of the most extraordinary and certainly most colourful agents that MI5 have ever recruited.

His cover was never less than brilliant. Some may have suspected that he worked for the KGB (which he did as well) but no one ever guessed that the man who was to become Chairman of the Labour Party was on the payroll of the Security Services.

The man who always stood on the far Left of his party did so because MI5 had, while he was still a schoolboy, infiltrated him into the Communist Party. His life thereafter was but a brilliant lie.

It was while he was at Lancing College that his "agent runner", the late Maxwell Knight, well known for his BBC talks on natural history, instructed him to join the Brighton branch of the Communist Party.

He continued as a member of the party while at Christchurch, Oxford, and was still a member when he joined the *Daily Express* in 1928.

However, MI6's hopes of employing him as a long-term agent inside the Communist Party was soon to collapse.

In 1941, reports from an MI5 agent with the code name M8, crossed the desk of Anthony Blunt.

Blunt was asked by the Russians to try to establish the identity of M8 but failed to do so. Subsequently he was told by his Russian controller that Soviet intelligence had discovered M8 was Driberg.

With unusual clumsiness, the Russians alerted Harry Pollitt, the General Secretary of the Communist Party about the spy in his camp. Because of this tip he summarily expelled Driberg from the Party.

Nevertheless, though the Russians knew about Driberg, MI5 continued to use him and his value soared when he entered Parliament and was able to report on the activities of MPs on both sides of the House.

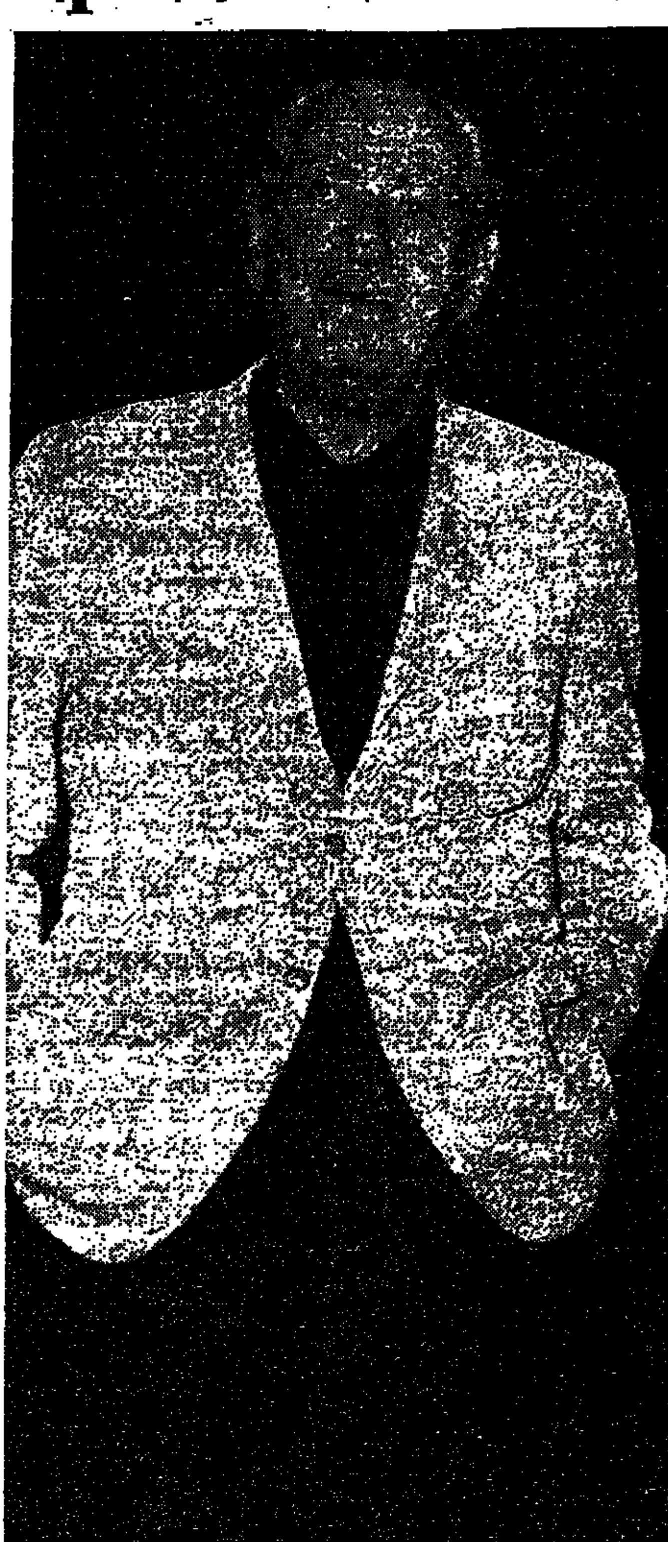
After the war, the KGB, knowing of his MI5 connexion, tried to use Driberg to feed false information to mislead British Intelligence. To this end they persuaded Harry Pollitt to induce him back into the Party as a clandestine member, something which Pollitt assured Driberg was already the position of several other MPs. Driberg reported the whole episode to MI5 and was told to keep the channels to Pollitt open.

After Driberg visited Moscow in 1966 to see Guy Burgess about the possibility of writing a book about him, he reported back to MI5 that the Russians had asked him to provide information to them about the internal proceedings of the Labour Party.

He was well placed to do so after having been elected to the National Executive in 1949 where he remained until his retirement from Parliament in 1974.

As Labour was not in office, MI5 had no commitment to it, so it was agreed that Driberg could report what he liked about his own Party to anyone since no official secrets were involved. In return he promised to use his connexion with the KGB in MI5's interest whenever possible.

The Russians gave Driberg two identical brief-cases. When he handed one containing his reports to the Russians in London they handed him the other, containing his payment in banknotes.



Lord Bradwell : Brilliant cover.

'Reports went to Russia and MI5'

Under agreement with the security authorities, Driberg was supposed to give all the money, as well as copies of his reports, to MI5. Over a period of several years he handed in wads of notes amounting to many thousands of pounds, but there seems to be little doubt that he began to retain more and more of the money for himself.

Driberg reported at length on the private lives of his most senior ministerial colleagues including some close friends, and on other MPs, men and women of all parties, given to philandering, as well as on political activities.

This material went not only to the Russians, who could use it for recruiting purposes, but to MI5 as well.

To swell his information, he lent his flat to Parliamentary colleagues, including ministers, for lunch-time trysts. He invariably made subsequent searches in the hope of discovering the identities of ladies who had been taken there.

On one occasion, after lending the flat to a senior colleague, he found an envelope in the handwriting of a woman MP, which he recognized. He then had the effrontery to accuse the colleague concerned of risking damage to the Party by causing what could easily have become an open scandal.

Both MI5 and the KGB benefited from Driberg's activities. MI5 was able to extend its knowledge of crypto-Communists in the Labour Party machine as well as in Parliament. The Russians were able to extend their list of those with character weaknesses who might be susceptible to blackmail.

The Hollis affair: 2

MI5's fat files on 60 Labour members

□ Sir Martin Furnival Jones, the ex-Head of MI5, once said: "If the Russian Intelligence Service can recruit a backbench MP and he climbs to a Ministerial position, the spy is home and dry."

He did not make that remark without case evidence to back it.

MI5 and Special Branch acting on information provided by defectors and by surveillance of Soviet Bloc intelligence officers, have fat files on more than 60 Labour MPs and on a score or so of Labour Peers.

Such files indicate that while some are or have been helpful to the Soviet cause for money, sometimes coupled with threat of blackmail, the majority are ideological agents of influence, giving their assistance because they are secret members of the Communist Party.

An instructive example of suspected Soviet penetration of the House of Commons concerns a former Labour MP for Acton, Bernard Floud.

In 1967 Harold Wilson wanted to make Floud a junior Minister and it is standard practice that if a Prime Minister wishes to give office to an MP, MI5 is specifically asked if it has anything to his detriment. In this case there was plenty.

It was known that Floud had been recruited to the Soviet cause at Oxford by James Klugmann, a Communist best-known for his activities at the rival University of Cambridge.

Floud, in turn, had recruited others including a woman who later managed to insinuate herself into a highly sensitive position in the Home Office. She had been interrogated and had named Floud as her recruiter.

Wilson, told that there was serious suspicion against Floud involving Communism and possibly espionage, gave permission for Floud to be interviewed so that the security authorities could judge whether his activities had been no more than youthful follies.

Floud was interrogated closely for two weeks during which he denied any connexion with the KGB. Then, on being shown evidence, he claimed that he could not recall it.

The MI5 men suspected he was still in touch with Soviet intelligence but told him that if he confessed his past activities and could convince them that he was no longer involved they would not object to his appointment.

Floud did not react to the offer, even after prolonged thought, so he was interviewed again. This produced nothing further and while MI5 could not give him clearance, they needed to persist with the questions and inquiries for a little longer.

After an unproductive session in October, 1967, Floud went home, wrapped himself in a blanket with a gas poker, turned on the tap and killed himself.

From Their Trade is Treachery, *published this week by Sidgwick and Jackson, £7.95.*

In the context of Driberg's double agent effort for MI5 and the KGB, the circumstances which enabled him to write his book, *Guy Burgess—Narrative in Dialogue*, are intriguing in every sense of the word.

What has not been appreciated before is that when Driberg travelled to Moscow to see Burgess, with the intention of preparing the book, he did so with the blessing of both MI5 and the KGB! MI5 knew that the book would be a disinformation exercise, controlled and checked both in the preparation and the proof stage by the KGB. MI5 also knew that Driberg would submit the proofs to it for vetting and that, therefore, it would be party to the KGB operation.

In the book, Burgess denied he had ever been a Russian spy, and Driberg ended the book by stating that he believed him. This was a blatant falsehood by Driberg.

In the event, Driberg's book contained enough lies and slanders against MI5 and the political system of the West for the KGB to be pleased with it, but MI5 was not too bothered with this because they believed they got a worthwhile trade-off as well.

Astonisingly at the time, there was no real reason why Guy Burgess should not have returned to London. There was no actual evidence against him to hold him and MI5 was terrified, knowing that he hated living in Moscow, that he might suddenly return one day, swan around Britain, cocking a snook at both the security services and the British public.

So Driberg's task was to induce Burgess to recall some details of his brief time in the highly secret war time Special Operations Executive and to name some of the people who had worked with him. This Driberg succeeded in doing.

The publishers, Weidenfeld and Nicholson, were totally unaware of the part they were playing in this extraordinary game of bluff when they were warned that they risked prosecution under the Official Secrets Act unless they removed the censored parts of the manuscript before publication, which in all innocence they duly did.

In the meantime I was approached by an outsider to write a story in my newspaper to say that because of what Burgess had told Driberg, the authorities now had evidence which could lead to the arrest and prosecution of Guy Burgess should he ever return to Britain because he had committed a provable breach of the Official Secrets Act. So Burgess was effectively frightened off.

It was an extraordinary episode from which nearly everyone gained. Driberg made money; both out of his publishers and out of the funds of KGB and MI5. The KGB was happy because it managed to put across its story and MI5 was contented because it used this device to ensure that Burgess himself was never able to return to Britain.

Burgess died aged 52 in 1963, lonely and homesick in Moscow, perhaps only guessing how just as he had betrayed his friends, so Driberg had betrayed him.

As with many double agents, Driberg was suspected by MI5 of doing more for the Soviet block than he admitted in his regular debriefings. Then in 1969 the Czech defector Josef Frolik, who laid information against several Labour MPs, gave specific information about a senior Labour MP who was a homosexual, had been recruited by Czech Intelligence and had the code-name "Crocodile".

Frolik described how the Czech Intelligence man in London had been smartly censured by the KGB for approaching Driberg because "Crocodile" was already their man. Frolik, who had seen "Crocodile" but did not know his name, identified him as Driberg from a spread of photographs shown to him by MI5.

Driberg was therefore taxed with this information by the MI5 case-officer handling him. "Have you ever done anything for the Czechs?" he was asked. "I have written them a few articles", he replied with a shrug.

Under questioning, however, he admitted that he had sold to the Czechs additional information about the internal squabbles of the Labour Party and personal scandals about who was sleeping with whom. "All harmless stuff", Driberg insisted with his usual charm.

He admitted that he had continued to do this while Chairman of the Labour Party in 1958 passing the information to his Czech controller whom he knew only as "Vaclav".

'Curiosity over the peerage'

Apart from warning him about the danger of giving the Russians any information which had not been passed by MI5, there was nothing the security authorities could do or wanted to do, in view of the scandal which open knowledge of the way they had employed the Labour Party chairman would create.

An opportunity for MI5 to dispense with Driberg's services had arisen during the premiership of Harold Macmillan, who had discovered that several MPs, mainly Tories, were being run by MI5 agents.

The MI5 chiefs were told that this was no longer permissible and the MPs were all paid off with the exception of Driberg, who refused to desist. He continued to report information to MI5 even after he had been elevated to the Lords as Lord Bradwell, being known in MI5 headquarters as "The Lord of the Spies".

The award of a peerage to such a notorious homosexual, who had admitted to another MP, Woodrow Wyatt, that he had once enjoyed the favours of a House of Commons employee in the Members' lavatory, was also a cause for public curiosity. While the award was made by Harold Wilson, ostensibly for Driberg's devotion to the Labour Party, it had been requested by his friend Michael Foot.

Lady Falkender explained to me that Foot felt sorry for Driberg because he was going blind, a fact confirmed to me by another of his friends, Mervyn Stockwood, the Bishop of Southwark. Foot, apparently, had never asked for an honour on behalf of anybody before and Wilson felt that he could not refuse.

Inquiries after Lord Bradwell's death in 1976 convinced MI5 that he had been controlled primarily by the KGB since the end of the war, partly because he may have been blackmailed, but mainly because he had moved farther to the Left.

The KGB had plenty of incriminating photographs. He had even been caught in a homosexual situation with Burgess when he visited him in Moscow and was shown the photographs as an extra "inducement", as he reported to MI5 on his return.

To his friends Driberg pretended that because his homosexuality was so well known, photographs, however revealing would be useless as blackmail. In reality this was far from being the case, as Driberg well knew.

All the KGB needed to do was to post prints of the pictures to various influential people and to newspapers and magazines.

The publicity would have made it impossible to continue to support Driberg' immunity from arrest, for his propensity for committing homosexual acts in public places remained an offence. It would also have ended his political career.

It would have been no more than just if Driberg had been betrayed, for the overall verdict on him—in journalism, politics and Intelligence—is that, eventually, he betrayed everybody. His deceitful behaviour over so many years hardly justified Michael Foot's postmortem tribute that "he never budged from his Socialist convictions".

Conflicting reasons given for the eclipse of Herr Schmidt

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 25

What is the matter with Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor?

Herr Schmidt seems to be going through a political trough, which is difficult to define. The superb operator who normally meets and deftly tackles each problem as it comes seems strangely inactive. The once confident leader, who would firmly state his policies, is unusually quiet.

One impartial observer remarked: "It is as if he had lost his initiative, almost as if he were losing the leadership."

As the Chancellor retreats into the background, the limelight is being taken by Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister and Vice-Chancellor, with statements, interviews and important visits to Washington, Warsaw and—next week—Moscow.

It has become fashionable, though superficial, to remark that Herr Genscher, not Herr Schmidt, seems to be running the country.

Has Herr Schmidt lost his touch, or is he deliberately just ticking over for the time being?

Those around him give conflicting reports. Some say he has retreated into himself, embittered at the lack of support from his own party, but others—including his own staff—say he is relaxed and in good spirits, but disconcertingly inactive.

There appears to be no evidence to support suggestions that he is suffering from depression, but among his Free Democrat coalition partners there is the feeling that, as a politician who particularly thrives on success, he is suffering from the setbacks of recent months.

Herr Kurt Becker, the Chancellor's spokesman and confidant, angrily denies that Herr Schmidt is either inactive or withdrawn. "That is quite wrong", he says. "I cannot see any basis for that in the Chancellor's daily engagements."

Whether real or merely perceived, the change in the Chancellor's style appears to have much to do with the increasing criticism and opposition from within his own Social Democrat Party.

Opposition from both the right and left wings of the Social Democrats look like preventing him making a highly advantageous sale of tanks and other weapons to Saudi Arabia, and will almost certainly compel him to scrap a deal to sell two submarines to Chile.

While these are questions on which the Chancellor appears prepared to give way, there is increasing resistance on subjects on which he would rather resign than budge. Two junior Cabinet ministers recently supported a left-wing move to question the party's support of the Nato missiles policy and Social Democrats in northern Germany are increasingly com ing out against his nuclea energy policy.

A five-point documen approved last month by th party executive, has largel failed to restore party unit and strains between its leader are evident.

Sources in the party believ Herr Schmidt is biding his tim in the hope that these intern problems will blow over.

Diplomatic observers, how ever, suggest that the Char cellor is aware that he is prol ably in his last term of offic and that he will be unable t fulfil long-term aims. His pa ticular personal bitternes towards Mrs Margaret Tha cher, they believe, is not du so much to the fish dispute a to the feeling that by being s difficult, she is thwarting h hopes of seeing a closely kn and well-functioning Europea Community.

The Free Democrats ar deeply worried about the ir stability of their bigger coal tion partners and the lack of firm hand. Herr Genscher, is implied, has had to fill vacuum. Once troublesom partners, the Free Democra are now doing everything the can to encourage harmor among the Social Democrats.

"But", said one, "this pr cess of erosion cannot go on f ever. Something will have happen soon or everything w fall to pieces."

Returning heroine tells why she said 'No'

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher told the Commons yesterday that during the EEC heads of government meeting at Maastricht, Holland, on Monday and Tuesday she spent most of the time on fishing issues saying "no" and doing so "rather vehemently".

It did not take much rıading between the lines of her statement to realize that Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, must have been heartily sick of the sight of the Prime Minister by the time he returned to Bonn.

Be that as it may, Mrs Thatcher was greeted as some sort of returning heroine yesterday by Tory MPs and was even awarded a grudging, albeit reluctant, welcome by Labour politicians. Indeed, there was little else but fish on the Commons menu for the Prime Minister.

Fishery interests in the Commons spread far and wide, crossing all party barriers and MPs left the Prime Minister and Mr Peter Walker, who will carry on the battle in Brussels on Friday with his fellow agriculture ministers, in no doubt that there will be deep trouble for the Government if there should be any backtracking.

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, told Mrs Thatcher that as long as the Government sustained the legitimate interests of this country over the fisheries dispute, it would have the fullest support of the Opposition.

Mrs Thatcher told the Commons that other European countries wanted Britain to agree to the conclusion of agreements with Canada and the Faroes, which would benefit the German fishing industry, but would harm Britain's.

Either of those agreements would have meant substantial imports of fish into Britain. The Prime Minister said she could not possibly agree to the conclusion of those agreements without having a European fisheries policy,

Britain, she said, was in the dock for not agreeing to conclude those third party agreements, but no agreement could be reached unless it was supported by the home fishing industry.

Her aim at the summit meeting was to prevent agreement being concluded in isolation from a European fisheries policy. The British fishing industry was already suffering from sufficient imports of fish without having to risk having more.

Police chief had Nazi propaganda material

From Our Own Corresponde
Bonn, March 25

A nationwide search by We German police for neo-Na propaganda material has led a substantial find—in the hou of a police chief.

Herr Ernst-Albrecht Lohm ler, head of the criminal vestigation department at Rec linghausen, in the Ruhr, w suspended from his duties tod

The Dortmund public pro cutor in charge of investi tions said: "I was horrifi when I heard about it." P ceedings would be open against Herr Lohmüller suspicion of spreading unc stitutional propaganda a racial incitement.

Police sources said that He Lohmüller is the father of Bundeswehr reserve officer w defied a ban on wearing mi tary uniforms at the funeral Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, t last head of the Nazi Th Reich.

The police found large qu tities of Nazi propaganda ma rial and antisemitic publicatio in raids on about 450 hou throughout West Germany y terday. They also seized unlicensed guns and pistols.

The police said the raids co firmed suspicions that the ma rial, printed in the Unite States and Canada, was bein distributed throughout We Germany by the peop involved.

Herr Erwin Schönborn, a 6 year-old publisher was Frankfurt today sentenced two years and eight months jail for composing antisemit leaflets and letters.

Greek ship sinks

Lisbon, March 25.—Th Greek cargo ship Rio Brav caught fire and sank yesterda about 600 miles south-west o the Azores islands, the Port guese news agency reported t day. All 27 people on boar were rescued.

British feelings about fish

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Deep scepticism that there is a sufficiant political will among Britain's EEC partners to conclude a fisheries agreement was expressed in authoritative quarters in Whitehall after Mrs Margaret Thatcher had spoken in the Commons yesterday.

The British Government was willing to negotiate as long as there was a chance of agreement, it was said, but the blame was pointed at France for supposed obstruction.

Mrs Thatcher, according to these quarters, deeply resented the conflicting charges that Britain was to blame, and that she had somehow "sold out". It was insisted that she had been as awkward as was feasible in protection of national interests.

She was apparently baffled why she should have been accused of "cheating" West Germany by Herr Helmut Schmidt. It came ill of him to say so, she apparently feels, when Britain had tried so hard to reach agreement.

It was also pointed out that Britain hopes to benefit as much as any other EEC nation, including Germany and France, from a European fishing agreement with Canada.

Gulf war in miniature costs 20 lives

From Our Own Correspondent
Beirut, March 25

At least 20 people were reported killed and 50 wounded in the tncient eastern Lebanese city of Baalbek today when rival militias supporting Iran and Iraq fought each other in the streets.

The combatants, using machine guns and rocket launched grenades, set fire to several buildings in the city, which boasts some of the finest Roman remains in the Middle East.

Gunmen of the Shia Muslim Amal militia, loyal to the Iranian revolution of Ayatollah Khomeini, were involved in battles through the day with forces from the Arab Socialist Baath Party, a pro-Iraqi group which has fought similar pitched battles with Amal in Beirut.

It was probably inevitable that this proxy version of the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq would at some stage break out in Baalbek since the city's population of 100,000 are predominantly Shia Muslims.

Iraq has poured money into Shia housing projects in Lebanon and thus has its own following among the community.

The governor of Baalbek appealed this afternoon for Syrian troops to intervene in the fighting in order to rescue children and teachers trapped inside a secondary school near the city centre.

Israel defied as Lebanese troops patrol UN zone

From Robert Fisk
Arzoun, Lebanon,
March 25

Undeterred by the anger of Major Saad Haddad and the displeasure of the Israedlis, the Unite Nations force in southern Lebanon is giving regular Lebanese soldiers increased responsibility for security in thed Unite Nations zone just six miles north of the Israeli frontier.

Lebanese troops are now patrolling the narrow, hilltop roads of southern Lebanon for the first time in six years, often travelling without United Nations escorts. This policy of increased "Lebanization" has come on the personal initiative of Major-General William Callaghan, the new United Nations Force commander.

The 700-strong Lebanese Army battalion stationed beside the small village of Arzoun, in an area nominally controlled by the United Nations Senegalese battalion, is carrying out regular mobile patrols under United Nations command. Supported by their own Saladin armoured personnel carriers, the Lebanese dtroops are trying—in however mil a way—to show that their country's sovereignty can extend once more into southern Lebanon.

The new policy represents a considerable military and political gamble by General Callaghan. The United States originally supported the deployment of Lebanese troops in th United Nations zone and ha undertaken to reequip th Lebanese Army with America weapons. If Israel continues t object to the presence of thes soldiers, the White House coul find itself in an embarrassin position.

The United States gave grea encouragement to the Lebanes to rebuild their shattered Arm after the 1975-76 civil war, an the White House is unlikely t take kindly to its mutilation b American weapons supplied t Major Haddad by the Israelis

This forms the backgroun to the extraordinary episod last week when Haddad Militia using artillery given them b Israel, shelled United Nation positions round the village o Kantara, killing two Nigeria troops and wounding 15 others Two more Nigerian soldier have since died from thei wounds.

The Lebanese Army had bee ordered into Kantara by Gen eral Callaghan and the bom bardment was Major Haddad's way of ordering them out

Major Haddad's pirate radio has been trying to smear General Callaghan as a racist for some days now and United Nations officers believe an attempt is also being made, by innuendo in news reports written by Israelis, to drive a wedge between white and black troops in the United Nations contingent.

BBC says jamming costs Moscow £60m

By Ian Bradley

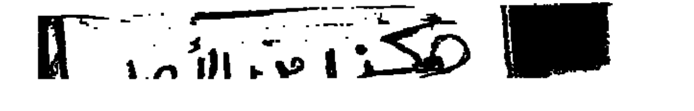
The Soviet Union is spending more in five or six days jamming of foreign broadcasts than the BC Russian Service costs to run in a year, according to calculations revealed by the BBC yesterday.

American engineers have estimated that last year the Russias spent about £60m on jamming while their network of jammers cost about £100m to install. The BBC Russian Service costs £900,000 a year

In an effort to beat the jammers, the BBC will on Sunday begin a continuous five-hour transmission to the Soviet Union between 7 pm and midnight Moscow time throughout the year. It will replace three separate evening transmissions.

The new transmission will take account of the fact that Soviet Union will go over to summer time on April 1.

The BBC Russian Service, which first started in 1946, has been jammed for 19 of its 35-year history. Jamming was most recently reintroduced in August last year.



President clips Mr Haig's wings

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 25

Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, has lost his first public skirmish with the White House. He declared publicly yesterday that he disapproved of a proposal that Vice-President Bush should be put in charge of crisis management, and said that he was not satisfied with the present system of making decisions on foreign policy. In the evening, the President announced that Mr Bush would get job, not Mr Haig.

It amounted to a public rebuke for the Secretary of State. Mr Reagan tried to take some of the sting away this afternoon by telling reporters that "the Secretary of State is my primary adviser on foreign affairs, and in that capacity he is the chief formulator and spokesman for foreign policy for this Administration". The fact remains that Mr Haig has suffered a serious reverse and that his standing in the Government, and therefore abroad, has suffered.

Some of Mr Reagan's most senior assistants in the White House thought that Mr Haig had been taking on altogether too much responsibility. He has repeatedly claimed that he is in charge of foreign policy, under the President's direction, that he is the "vicar" for foreign affairs.

He clearly wanted to avoid being subverted by Mr Richard Allen the President's National Security Adviser, in the way Mr Cyrus Vance, then secretary of State, had his authority undermined by Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's adviser, and the way Mr William Rogers, Mr Nixon's first Secretary of State was destroyed by Dr Henry Kissinger.

Mr Haig submitted proposals for the organization of foreign policy on almost the first day of Mr Reagan's Administration. The White House staff, including Mr Allen and Mr Edwin Meese, the counsellor, succeeded in stopping this pre-emptive strike, and now the Secretary of State has been publicly rebuked for questioning the President's authority. The State Department said last night that he had no intention of resigning.

Mr Bush was made chairman of the emergency committee precisely to avoid a sharp conflict between Mr Haig and Mr Allen. If Mr Allen had been put in charge, as his predecessors were, Mr Haig would have resented it. The Vice-President, who was once director of the Central Intelligence Agency and headed the American missions to the United Nations and to China, seemed a well-qualified compromise.

The Secretary of State was not enthusiastic, and made the mistake of letting his lack of enthusiasm be widely known. Some observers see his dispute with Mr Bush as the first round in the race for the Republican nomination in 1984, if Mr Reagan does not run again.

Mr Haig's defeat is partly a victory for Mr Allen, but is more of a victory for senior and very conservative members of Mr Reagan's staff.

Appeal to Mr Reagan not to arm Unita

From David Cross
Washington, March 25

Senhor Andre Gonçalves Pereira, the Portuguese Foreign Minister, today became the latest in a line of allied government leaders to come to Washington to exchange views on international problems with the new Administration.

During talks with Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, Senhor Gonçalves Pereira was expected to urge the Administration not to assist Dr Jonas Sarimbi, the leader of Unita, the last surviving anti-communist guerrilla movement in Angola.

President Reagan and his foreign and defence policy advisers have already made it clear that they would like to help Unita in its continuing struggle against the Government in Luanda supported by the Soviet Union and Cuba. They are taking steps to ask Congress to repeal an American law forbidding aid to rebels in Angola and Dr Savimbi is expected to be allowed to visit Washington shortly to canvass aid for his cause.

Portugal, however, is trying to improve relations with its former African colonies such as Angola and Mozambique by offering economic aid to the governments in power irrespective of their political colour.

The Administration has already upset a number of black African governments in recent weeks by its tilt towards South Africa. The 50-member African group at the United Nations issued a statement last night saying that it would "not accept the development of the policy by the present American Administration in favour of the racist regime of South Africa."

The statement said: "Such a trend can only encourage state terrorism practised by South Africa, racist opposition and repression of the black people in South Africa, perpetuate the continued illegal occupation of Namibia and generally harm United States-African relations for which the Government will be solely responsible."

This angry reaction by black African governments comes after remarks by President Reagan suggesting that he might favour closer relations with Pretoria, as well as a highly publicized and embarrassing incident involving Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the American representative at the United Nations and a five-man delegation of senior South African military intelligence officials.

The State Department first denied that members of the South African delegation had met any senior American Administration officials. Official contacts between military officials of the two countries have been forbidden on American soil since 1963.

Later, however, the State Department acknowledged that members of the delegation had met Mrs Kirkpatrick.

American and Portuguese Foreign Ministers were also expected to begin consultations for the renewal of the American lease on the use of the Laies air base in the Azores, which is due to expire in 1983.

Senhor Goncalves Pereira was also expected to hear from Mr Haig about Washington's view of East-West relations in all its aspects, from El Salvador to Poland.

Herr Hans Apel, the West German Defence Minister, was also in Washington today at the conclusion of talks with Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence. Herr Apel was under pressure to reassure the new Administration that plans being worked out in Bonn to cut government expenditure would not hamper allied defence programmes.

During talks at the Pentagon yesterday, Mr Masayoshi Ito, the Japanese Foreign Minister, said that Japan was determined "to fulfil its responsibilities for world peace". Never the less, a spokesman made it clear later than Japan would set its own level of military forces and would not take part in collective Western defence efforts.

Uganda gunmen attack Obote HQ and bomb Kampala power supply

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 25

Kampala and the whole of western Uganda were plunged into darkness when anti-government groups damaged the main electricity supply line from the Owen Falls hydroelectric station at the source of the Nile last night.

In other attacks around Kampala the broadcasting station on Bugolobi Hill was damaged, and armed men sprayed the ruling Uganda People's Congress headquarters with machine-gun bullets, wounding two party workers.

Four heavy explosions were heard by Kampala residents, and telephone services were interrupted for several hours.

The Uganda Freedom Movement claimed responsibility for today's attacks. A spokesman for the underground group, telephoning from Uganda, said they had planned to make the attacks earlier this week, but had delayed them because President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone had been visiting Uganda.

The movement claimed responsibility last month for a series of attacks on police stations in Kampala. Its leaders have not been identified but it is thought to support Dr Yusufu Lule, who was President of Uganda for 68 days in 1979 immediately after the overthrow of President Amin.

One of the underground groups, led by Mr Yoweri Museveni, a former minister, has recently claimed to have carried out attacks on military targets. In a statement received yesterday, Mr Museveni said his People's Resisistance Army was sure of success because it is backed by the public.

He accused President Obote and his ministers of conniving at murders and other crimes committed by the Ugandan Army, and threatened to carry the attack to the political leaders who must bear responsibility.

The explosions in the Kampala area occurred shortly before midnight. The main damage to the electricity supply was caused about 10 miles east of Kampala, diplomats said today.

At Bugolobi Hill, 10 men in two Land Rovers attacked the radio station, killing three members of the army guard there.

The road outside the radio station was stained with blood and scattered with broken glass today.

The attack on Uganda House, the Congress headquarters in central Kampala, took place soon after 9 am. After spraying upper storeys with machine-gun bullets, three armed men in a Land Rover drove off at high speed, pursued through central Kampala by troops.

The attackers' driver was hit by a bullet, but the vehicle apparently got away. Seven people were arrested later.

Civil servants sharply criticized

French urged to adopt active strategy on poor

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 25

A year last February President Giscard d'Estaing met Father Joseph Wresinski, a Franciscan friar, who has devoted his whole life to helping the under-privileged in France.

Father Wresinski founded the movement, Aid To All Distress—Fourth World, to help more than a million French people who eke out a miserable existence outside the bounds of society.

His concern at the Elysée visit was especially to draw the attention of the President, who had on many occasions in the past given support to the movement, to the fact that all the elaborate policies of social assistance and redistribution had often failed to benefit those who needed help most. Because such people were caught up in a world of illiteracy, hopelessness and want, they found it impossible to break away.

The upshot of that visit was the setting up of a working party, chaired by M Gabriel Oheix, who is a member of the Conseil d'Etat and former government delegate for employment, to draw up a report on the problem, which has just been given to the Government.

The report does not contain any analysis or statistics of poverty in France, but lists seven priorities and 60 different proposals, some of which break distinctly new ground. One of them proposes the setting up of a fund, financed by a "solidarity contribution" and paid by wage earners who enjoy stable employment, like civil servants. It is also suggested that gambling be taxed as well as outward signs of wealth, some of which, according to the report, are regarded as a challenge, if not a provocation "by the poorest".

In spite of all the outward signs of the affluent society, there is still a great deal of dire poverty in France. Charitable organizations like the Secours Catholique, the Secours Populaire Francais, the Salvation Army and the Petits Frères des Pauvres report a dramatic increase in requests for assistance since 1978.

The increase in unemployment and th erigidity of French bureaucracy are partly responsible. "The French social system is perfect". M Oheix was recently quoted as saying, "if you satisfy the whims of the average government official". Many cases of acute need recorded by these charitable organizations are because of the failure to obtain due benefits.

As *Le Monde* writes, the Oheix report is a sharp indictment of the French administration by this working party of senior civil servants, who accuse it of "secreting poverty".

The report begins significantly with a quotation from Ernest Renan to the effect that "there is no greater injustice than to handle equally things which are unequal".

The bureaucratic machine "handles matters blindly and bears a heavy responsibility in the aggravation of the situation of individuals as a result of the suspension or cessation of the payment of benefits for simple administrative reasons".

The report suggests among other things that social security officials "should adopt towards the least privileged an active strategy like that of firms towards markets they have decided to conquer". It recommends a fundamental change in administrative attitudes by allowing for the payment of benefits prior to the production of proofs to entitlement.

It also suggests the creation of a "social income" which would be paid to those who do not have access to the different kinds of social benefits, and it emphasizes the need for an all-out campaign against illiteracy.

Holes found in Fresnes jail security

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 25

M Emile Bance, governor of Fresnes prison in the Val de Marne, has been "invited" to take early retirement after an attempt last month by a condemned murderer to escape.

M Bance, who cannot refuse the suggestion, is leaving with a bad grace, claiming that he is being made the scapegoat for failures higher up in the prison administration.

The escape attempt was made on February 24 by M Philippe Maurice, who is due to be executed for the murder of a policeman if he is not granted a presidential pardon. Making use of a gun which, it is alleged, was taken into the prison by one of his defence lawyers, he shot one warder before being cornered and disarmed. A subsequent inquiry disclosed several shortcomings

The defence lawyer, Maitre Brigitte Hemmerlin, who is being held in custody, has told the police that she merely agreed to take in a wrapped package to the prisoner as a gift. Ironically, the only part of the huge prison not equipped with a metal detector at the door is the high-security wing, so when the lawyer entered the gun was not detected.

The next mistake occurred while the prisoner was talking to his lawyer in an interview room. Although the law says that these conversations must be private, a warder is allowed to watch what goes on between the two through a glass screen. Nevertheless, the package was handed over unnoticed.

Only a perfunctory body check was made of the prisoner before he was sent back to his cell, so the revolver hidden in his pullover went undiscovered.

Finally, the time taken to corner and disarm the prisoner has been found by the inquiry to have been too long, due to the fact that a proper warning was not given quickly enough.

As a result of these "technical failings", three warders in the high-security wing are being moved and are losing their seniority and M Bance, after 20 years as a senior prison officer, is being pressured to take early retirement.

Commenting on the decision, M Christian Dablanc, director of the prison service, said: "The functions of authority are not in keeping with irresponsibility. When mistakes go so far as non-execution of orders, it is intolerable."

China disaster appeal

From Alan McGregor
Geneva, March 25

"A creeping disaster" was the description given by the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (Undro) to the effects of drought and flood in China when it issued an official appeal yesterday for relief assistance.

"It is not a dramatic situation", an official said. Initial contacts last December reflect the Chinese Government's desire, in applying its new open door policy, to avail itself of whatever assistance was available through the United Nations.

Mr Wan Zhichuan, a senior official from the Chinese Ministry of Economic Relations with Foreign Countries, is returning to Peking later this week after 10 days of discussions here with Undro, other United Nations bodies, including the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme, and Western diplomats.

Undro expects that Mr Zhichuan's visit may be followed soon by that of a higher delegation

Road chaos in Rome

Rome, March 26.—Buses, trams and the underground will come to a halt in Rome tomorrow as transport workers stage a 24-hour, nationwide strike. Traffic congestion in the capital is expected to be worse than usual and several thousand strikers plan to march through the city centre.

Salisbury fears punitive Pretoria trade bars

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, March 25

The announcement yesterday by South Africa that it is scrapping the preferential trade agreement with Zimbabwe was unexpected here and is regarded as a political move which will damage Zimbabwe's economy.

South Africa is by far Zimbabwe's most important trading partner, being a convenient and lucrative export market and the source of the bulk of imports apart from petrol products. Last year about 140m Zimbabwe dollars (about £97m) of the country's export earnings came from South Africa, 24 per cent of the total amount excluding gold revenue.

With the termination of the agreement, which was drawn up in 1964, South Africa will put heavy tariffs on Zimbabwean goods, it is believed in economic circles here. In some areas for example foodstuffs, there is a ready market elsewhere in Africa but Zimbabwean-produced clothing, textiles, furniture and electrical goods, which are significant foreign currency earners, will be badly hit.

Imports pose less of a problem. Zimbabwe has been casting about for new trading partners since independence and has found that some motor vehicles and a wide range of machinery are more cheaply obtainable elsewhere.

A Zimbabwean delegation, which had been expecting a routine discussion on the agreement, was told by the South Africans yesterday that it had been scrapped.

An economist said: "It was completely unexpected and was obviously politically motivated. The agreement has been mainly to South Africa's benefit over the years."

Meanwhile, the Zimbabwe conference on reconstruction and development went into its third day in a mood of near euphoria.

Yesterday, 21 countries—including the donor heavyweights—announced their contributions. Today representatives of 18 countries took the podium to pledge 68m Zimbabwe dollars. This, said the spokesman, increased the money available to the Government from the time it launches its three-year economic plan in July to 898m Zimbabwe dollars, of which 813m was specifically for reconstruction and development projects.





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In the Matter of THE PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS' CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 17th day of April, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Geoffrey Martin, F.C.C.A., of Bernard Phillips & Co., of St. Pauls House, Park Square, Leeds LS1 2PJ, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 16th day of March, 1981.

G. MARTIN, Certified Accountant.

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948 TO 1967 ASSOCIATED PAPER CONVERTERS Limited.

Notice is Hereby Given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company are required on or before the 29th day of April 1981, to send their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors if any, to Keith David Goodman, F.C.A., of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA, the Joint LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors, or personally, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 18th day of March, 1981.

K. D. GOODMAN, Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948 TO 1967 BARKING METAL TRADING COMPANY Limited.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company are required on or before the 30th day of April 1981, to send their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors if any, to PHILIP MONJACK, F.C.A., of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors, or personally, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 19th day of March 1981.

P. MONJACK, Liquidator

In the Matter of J. B. RINEY (CONTRACTORS) LTD.

By Order of The High Court dated the 8th October 1980 NEVILLE ECKLEY F.C.A. of 10 Bramley Hill, South Croydon, has been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named company WITH A COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.

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Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader (third from left), discussing plans for a four-hour strike to be held in Bydgoszcz, northern Poland, on Friday.

Polish talks go into second day

Warsaw, March 25.—Solidarity, the free trade union federation, today obtained an adjournment of negotiations with the Polish Government, accusing it of being totally unresponsive. The Communist Party's Politburo promptly called a meeting of the party's Central Committee for Sunday, the official PAP news agency reported, to examine the party's tasks in face of the present situation.

Talks, which opened here this evening, were broken off after hardly half an hour's conversation. The Government had "no proposals to offer" to an extremely detailed list of union demands, one Solidarity delegate commented later.

The dialogue is to resume tomorrow, although no hour has yet been set. If so, it will be only a day before a scheduled four-hour national strike in protest at incidents in the northern city of Bydgoszcz last week, in which 20 members of Solidarity were apparently injured by the police.

The union is seeking government guarantees against any more such incidents, while the Government wishes to deter any more strikes.

A deputy to Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity's leader, said today that all that Mieczyslaw Rakowski, a Deputy Prime Minister had had to offer today were words. They would have made "a good article in *Polityka*," he said bitterly, referring to the fact that Mr Rakowski doubles as managing editor of the Communist weekly of that name.

Mr Walesa said that in spite of the bad start, he was still optimistic about chances for an agreement that would avert an indefinite general strike from next Tuesday. However, other unionists pointed out that some sort of "signal" from the Government was needed first.

Mr Walesa told reporters that the talks ended swiftly because Mr Jerzy Bafia, the Justice Minister, had failed to present a reply to the union's demands.

The Warsaw talks were held against a background of mounting tension in Poland.

State radio said there was only enough food to last for another 12 days, and national television broadcast a statement by Pope John Paul II in which he expressed his deep concern about the state of his homeland.

Demands for the punishment of those responsible for alleged police brutality at Bydgoszcz are among a list of stiff conditions Solidarity has laid down for negotiations.

A state radio commentator said: "Talks conducted under strike pressure cannot lead to an honest harmonization of views, but they do paralyse the authorities."—Agence France Presse and Reuter.

War games go on: The East German official ADN news agency said today the Warsaw Pact manoeuvres in and around Poland demonstrated the alliance's readiness to defeat "all enemies of socialism" and made clear the war games would go on for several more days.—Reuter.

Army's role in countering ETA accepted by Basque leader

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, March 25

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Spanish Prime Minister, obtained the cautious support of Señor Carlos Garaikoechea, the Chief Minister of the Basque autonomous regional Government, for a limited involvement of the armed forces in combating terrorism in the Basque country, when the two men met in Madrid today.

But Señor Garaikoechea clearly indicated that the Basque Nationalist Party government was against declaring a state of emergency. He also insisted that the authority of the regional government must be upheld.

Señor Calvo Sotelo, engaged in selling Monday's package of tougher anti-terrorist measures to the Basque leader, also sought greater cooperation in matters of information to fight the ETA terrorists.

Señor Garaikoechea insisted that the best antidote to the ETA remained the introduction of an autonomous regime in the Basque country "without any breaking up of the unity of Spain". He claimed that the Prime Minister had assured him that transfer of powers by Madrid to the Basques would not be slowed down.

The Basque leader later met Señor Alberto Oliart the Defence Minister, to be briefed on the extent of the armed forces' surveillance operations along the French border.

Señor Oliart later told foreign correspondents that the basic purpose of using some army units was to make the frontier "more impenetrable". The Army would not be employed in the interior but only a few miles from the border.

This would free the police and Civil Guard for a more effective fight against ETA terrorists. "But the Army is not going to fight the terrorists directly", the minister pledged.

Asked what would happen if army units were attacked by ETA guerrillas, he said that troops would use their arms only as a last resort if attacked and then promptly hand over those detained to the Civil Guard.

Señor Oliart rejected the idea of promoting to senior posts in the armed forces officers of known democratic sympathies. That was not the way for democracy to be strengthened, he said. Officers should be promoted strictly according to professional qualifications.

Asked about the possibility of another coup attempt by the military, Señor Oliart replied: "That will only occur over my dead body."

Military intelligence would have to be "restructured" as a result of last month's failed coup, he added.

One company of the Army's Special Operations Group was sent from the Burgos command today to start surveillance of the frontier.

The Civil Guard also tightened controls at frontier posts with France and the first of seven naval vessels to be redeployed arrived in Pasajos port, near San Sebastián, to patrol the Bay of Biscay.

Before the meeting, Señor Garaikoechea expressed "very lively concern" that the limited tasks given to the armed forces in the frontier zone "could signify the beginning of a growing presence of the armed forces in the Basque country".

He also argued that if the Madrid Government was asking for joint responsibility in the anti-terrorist campaign, public order should also be included. So long as Madrid had sole charge of public order it could not blame the Basque Government.

His party called for amendments in the enabling legislation, due to be approved shortly by the Cortés, regulating the proclamation of states of alert, emergency, and siege. The present draft ignored the existence of a civil power in the autonomous regions, he said.

The police today continued the round-up begun yesterday of people suspected of close links with the ETA's military wing. More than 40 people were detained, including some members of the Basque regional parliament, mayors and local councillors of Herri Batasuna, the extreme left-wing Basque nationalist grouping, several of whose members are former ETA militants. Unlike other Basque political forces, Herri Batasuna refused to take any stand over last week's murder of two army colonels in the Basque region and Navarra.

The Spanish inner Cabinet at a meeting on Sunday and Monday under Señor Calvo Sotelo considered banning extremist parties, it is now learnt. This move might include not only Herri Batasuna but also extreme right-wing movements such as Fuerza Nueva.

The Cabinet apparently decided against the ban for the present. The police are applying in their raids last year's anti-terrorism law under which terrorist suspects can be held incommunicado for up to 10 days.

Greece counts cost of farm price rises

From Mario Modiano
Athens, March 25

The decisions of EEC ministers of agriculture who meet on Friday for the annual farm price review, may have important political repercussions for Greece.

The low price increases for agricultural products, proposed by the European Commission, are already causing acute embarrassment to the Greek Government which faces a general election due in the autumn.

The right of centre Government of Mr George Rallis was counting on immediate and substantial benefits to the farmers from Greece's entry into the community, in order to offset the effects on the electorate of high inflation and the ordinary wear and tear of office.

The Commission's recommendation for farm prices to be raised on average by 7.8 per cent can hardly compensate for inflation which soared to 25 per cent in Greece last year, twice the community average.

Mr George Rallis, took advantage of this week's summit at Maastricht to press for higher increases (between 15 and 18 per cent on average), and to oppose the extension of the coresponsibility levy to surpluses of Mediteranean commodities.

The Prime Minister's argument that the Community's policy would result in a fall of the real income of Greek farmers, was promptly invoked in a counter-attack by Mr Andreas Papandreou, the leader of the Opposition, whose Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) favours withdrawal from the EEC.

Mr Papandreou said: "Mr Rallis now denounces strongly the Community's agricultural policy for harming the interests of the Greek farmers. Yet, until the official ceremony for Greece's accession to the EEC, his main argument to the people for joining was the positive consequences that the common agricultural policy would have had on Greek agriculture."

What has compounded the problem for the Greek Government is that after three record harvests this year's crop is likely to be affected by poor weather.

Man accused of Moi plot says he was Njonjo agent

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi

Mr Andrew Muthemba, aged 45, a Nairobi businessman accused here of plotting to overthrow President Moi, was said today to have denied any plot against the president.

A statement allegedly made to police by Mr Muthemba, who is accused of treason, was read to the magistrate who is conducting a preliminary inquiry into the charge, and into a charge of misprision of treason against another man, Mr Dickson Muiruiri. Both are members of the Kikuyu tribe.

In the statement read to the inquiry today, Mr Muthemba said he was a cousin of Mr Charles Njonjo, Kenya's Minister for Constitutional and Home Affairs. He claimed he was engaged in "undercover work" for Mr Njonjo.

"My major aim was to prove beyond reasonable doubt that there was smuggling of arms and ammunition from the armed forces", his statement added. "I did not fear being arrested because I was doing my duty to my country."

In his statement, he said he frequently met Mr Njonjo, and also Mr Ben Gethi, the police commissioner.

The statement was made at the police special branch headquarters here on February 22 the court was told.

In it, Mr Muthemba allegedly said he had been investigating suspicions that soldiers were selling arms to "bandits". He said he had got in touch with a Kenya Air Force captain and had pretended that he wanted to obtain arms, in order to carry out the investigation.

Earlier, Captain Ricky Gatucha had given evidence of meetings with the two accused men who he said had told him they had connexions with an influential group, including Mr Njonjo. They had asked him to obtain arms, he said. The hearing continues.

Panda's wavelength

Peking, March 25.—Scientists have fitted radio transmitters around the necks of two giant pandas, a male and a female, and sent them into the wilds of Sichuan where their movements will be monitored, the official Xinhua news agency said.

Rainbow Warrior is seized

St Anthony, Newfoundland, March 25.—Rainbow Warrior, the boat chartered by Greenpeace was seized today and two members of the conservation society arrested for spraying baby seals with green paint.

Mr Jim Hunt, a Fisheries and Ocean Ministry official, said Mr Christopher Bruce Robinson of Canada and Mr John Beejman of The Netherlands, were arrested as they were daubing the baby seals with paint so that their fur would be useless.

Under Canadian law, only people holding a special permit, or accompanied by a fisheries ministry official, are allowed to get closer than half a mile to the seals.

The arrests came as licensed Canadian and Norwegian fishermen took the annual seal cull into its third week. The hunt is expected to produce about 250,000 skins.

Two other people on board the *Rainbow Warrior*, were also believed to have been arrested. They were not identified.

The Ocean Warrior was seized for violating Canadian fisheries laws which impose a 12-mile offshore territorial limit.

The two conservationists were taken on board the Baffin, a Canadian oceanography vessel monitoring the Rainbow Warrior's movements. Two officers from the Baffin took charge of the Rainbow Warrior, making for St John's, Newfoundland.

The authorities have appealed to villagers in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, not to approach and endanger hundreds of baby seals stranded nearby. Their mothers might flee if they picked up human scents.—Agence France-Presse and AP.

North Sea rig disaster bodies still trapped

Stavanger, March 25.—As many as 35 bodies are believed to be still trapped inside the Alexander Kielland North Sea platform nearly one year after its collapse with the loss of 123 oil workers, the authorities said.

President's party expected to top South Korean poll

From Jacqueline Reditt
Seoul, March 25

South Koreans went to the polls today to vote for a new 276-seat parliament. Despite persistent rain and fog, the turnout was high, with more than 75 per cent of the nearly 21 million people eligible casting their votes.

The results will show how strongly the electorate supports President Chun Doo Hwan, the former army strongman turned politician. Most political observers expect his Democratic Justice Party (DJP) to emerge as the majority party and President Chun told the country in the last days of campaigning that it would be "contradictory" of the electorate to withdraw its support for him, after voting him into the presidency last month.

In February Mr Chun's supporters won an overwhelming victory in electoral college elections and Mr Chun finally gained more than 90 per cent of the electoral college votes.

But the opposition parties hope to make a better showing in today's voting and their main campaign appeal has been the need for an effective Opposition in parliament.

"I think many of the middle class intelligentsia will vote for the Opposition, not because they are against Chun, but because they want to see a balanced parliament", one civil servant said.

DJP officials have pointed out that there is no danger of the President's party totally dominating Parliament, since under the electoral system, no one party can gain more than 55.4 per cent of the seats. But they have not pointed out that the majority of the more than 100 independent candidates are considered to be pro-Government and that the other parties are to some extent "approved opposition", in so far as 550 former politicians were banned from all political activities by a political renovation committee last November.

The main parties bidding for parliamentary seats are the DJP, the main opposition Democratic Korea Party, the Korea National Party, composed mainly of supporters of the former Park Chung Hee regime, the Civil Rights Party and the Democratic Socialist Party.

A number of small parties are likely to fold after the elections since under the new political party law, they must be dissolved if they do not win at least one seat or 2 per cent of the votes cast.

Record pirates condemned

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, March 25

The degree to which piracy of recordings with its large profits has been taken up by organized crime was underlined by Mr John Hall, QC, director general of the International Federation of Producers of Phonograms and Videograms.

He was addressing a conference on piracy of sound and audiovisual recordings, held at the Geneva headquarters of Aipo, the world intellectual property organization.

Mr David Gibbins, the federation's director of anti-piracy operations, deplored the low level of enforcement of laws protecting recordings. Illegal products were often smuggled or covered by false customs declarations.

In Italy, a piracy centre, about 1,600,000 unauthorized duplicates—mostly cassettes—were seized and 66 duplicating plants raided in the past three years. Overall, counterfeits represented sales running into many hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

Mr Lo Man-hung, Hongkong customs superintendent, said that one counterfeiting studio found there contained 115 cassette recording desks all connected for simultaneous recording.

Court delays West Bank settlement drive

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 25

For the second time in a week the Israeli High Court has delayed the drive by the ruling right-wing coalition and individual settlers to increase the size of Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank before the June general election.

As the result of an appeal on behalf of a 73-year-old Palestinian landowner living in Bethlehem, the court has issued a temporary injunction preventing any further Israeli work on a plot of farmland which he claims was illegally seized last month to expand the settlement of Alon Shvut.

The order was issued by Mr Justice Moshe Cohen and effectively freezes the situation on the disputed plot which was recently forcibly fenced off by a group of Israelis from the settlement. The Palestinian claims to have documents proving that the land—now partially covered in grapevines — has been in his family's possession since the Ottoman period. The case has now been referred to a panel of three judges.

The court decision comes at a time of mounting internal criticism of the methods employed by the West Bank military administration to speed up the settlement programme. The case was one of nine separate appeals by Arab landowners now before the High Court involving more than 2,600 acres of disputed land.

Last week the Jerusalem-based court issued another temporary injunction to ban further Israeli excavation and demolition work in 750 acres of countryside near the West Bank town of Anabta.

The military Government had by then built a 700-yard access road to the disputed property without permitting local Arabs the statutory 21 days to appeal against the seizure.

In an angry leading article entitled "Stealing Land in the Territories" the respected independent Hebrew daily *Haaretz* has launched an attack on what it scathingly dismissed as "the quasi legal trick" now being used to acquire new land for Jewish settlements.

The paper described how the military government's new method is to declare the required territory "state land", thus allowing residents claiming ownership only three weeks to contest the decision before a military appeals board. The leading article emphasized that this is not a judicial tribunal but a committee of lawyers serving reserve duty who are subject to military discipline and who can in any event only make a recommendation rather than a binding decision.

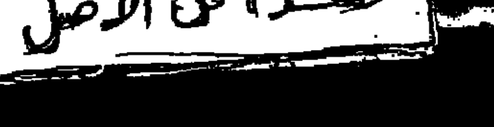
"The Arab residents are not given the elementary opportunity to prepare their cases before the committee . . ." the leading article says. "No intelligent man either in Israel or abroad would consider this procedure a valid legal method"

The paper then quoted criticism of the system made in a recent interview with Mr Haim Cohen, the Israeli Supreme Court judge who retired earlier this month.

"We administer Judea and Samaria merely as trustees", the former judge said. "It is elementary that a trustee who takes for himself the property of the trusteeship is committing an act of larceny — and one of the ugliest kind."

Urging any future Labour Government to review the procedure of creating "state land" which the military administration can then dispose of as it chooses, *Haaretz* concludes:

"It is a mark of discredit that the Government of Israel needs recourse to these kinds of methods and it is difficult to understand how the Attorney-general agreed — if indeed he did — to the use of such a contemptible system."



Ethnic TV helps to break down national barriers

Australians tune in worldwide

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, March 25

Since its inception in 1956, Australian television has often been thought of as the worst in the world, but now it appears that things are changing.

Ethnic television was introduced in Melbourne and Sydney last year and it is already winning strong praise from hitherto sceptical viewers and critics.

Nearly half of Australians, aged under 20 have parents who were born outside the country. Immediately after the war, "New Australians", although encouraged to come here to settle, were very much in the minority and were treated as second class citizens.

Now, such are the numbers of immigrant Australians, they are a strong force in Australian society and evidence of this is being felt in many areas.

Most immigrants have a European background, usually Italian or Greek, but there are many from South America and South-East Asia.

Ethnic television has been one result of the increased influence of the immigrants and all Australians are beginning to feel its benefits, although only about 3 per cent of viewers choose to watch it. Its audience, however, is regularly increasing.

Ethnic television was once considered an election stunt by the Fraser Government, as it is almost entirely financed from government funds.

But five months after it started going on air in Melbourne and Sydney, it is no longer called "hasty, extravagant, ill-considered and an election stunt", as it was variously described during last year's election campaign.

Ethnic television has been carefully developed by Mr Bruce Gyngell, an experienced broadcaster, into an alternative not only to the largely frothy offerings from the other commercial networks, but also to ABC, the Australian equivalent of the BBC, which has a tendency to be dull.

The result has been some superlative viewing, particularly of films and documentaries from parts of the world seldom given a showing in Australia, such as South America, Israel and Western Europe. Some of the most widely acclaimed programmes have come from Eastern Europe.

The news service has also impressed by giving an international coverage. The biggest problem has been the necessity for subtitles. There are 12 full-time and 40 part-time people working on subtitles alone. It is an extremely complex literary and technical process taking 30 hours for each one hour of foreign film.

Early indications are not only that all this effort is worth while, but that Channel O, the ethnic channel, will perhaps alter the entire pattern of television viewing.

Apart from offering a genuine elternative, Channel O is also helping to break down national barriers while broadening people's perceptions of the world. An added bonus is that the channel is proving to be extremely popular with deaf people.

Ethnic television is not only attempting to provide television of exceptional quality, but it is also enabling Australians to know a world that extends beyond Britain and the United States.

Tory MPs may defy whips over Canada

By George Clarke
Political Correspondent

British MPs reacted strongly yesterday to the prospect that the Government will impose a three-line whip to ensure the speedy passage of the Bill, expected next month, to endorse the patriation of the Canadian constitution, together with an amending formula and a charter of rights.

Such action was clearly envisaged by Mr Jean Chrétien, the Canadian Justice Minister, who addressed the Canada Club in London last night.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, he said, had repeated many times that when the request is made by Ottawa, the British Government "will act promptly according to precedent and the law". This, he said, was the type of statement of intention which the Canadian Government welcomed, and which accorded with tradition and convention.

The Tory whips have not yet been given instructions, but it can be assumed that the Bill will be sponsored as a Government-backed measure, which will entail mustering Conservative MPs in force to get it through.

But many Conservatives say they may defy the whips because, although Mr Chrétien talks of "tradition and convention", it is quite unprecedented that such a Bill should come forward with eight of the 10 Canadian provincial governments opposed to it.

Here the argument turns on whether Westminster has a guardianship or trusteeship role in relation to preserving the federal structure of Canada.

A Commons select committee, in a report published in January, argued that Westminster had a role to ensure that any request from Ottawa "conveys the clearly expressed wishes of Canada as a whole".

Mr Eldon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds and a member of the select committee, said last night: "To have a three-line whip would be using a sledgehammer to tackle a nut and would ensure widespread resentment in the party. Many of my colleagues will support the view of the select committee, before whom the Foreign Office witnesses were pale and unconvincing".

Sir Bernard Braine (Essex, South-East, C) said: "Since 1931 Parliament has never been asked to take sides in a serious constitutional dispute raging in Canada." British MPs had been asked to maintain a balance between the federal and provincial governments in Canada. It would be wrong to impose a whip, he said.

Mr Peter Mills (West Devon, C) said: "We have a guardianship role which was thrust upon us by Canada in 1931, therefore we must take notice of the provincial (Canadian) objections".

The Labour whips said that if the Government tried to get the Bill through without proper discussion, there would be great trouble. The Liberals say they will support a "properly made" request.

In the Lords, whips on both sides say there could be serious opposition to the Trudeau package, with the possibility of peers introducing petitions on behalf of dissident provinces.

Mr Chrétien last night denied that the Trudeau proposals would fundamentally change or destroy the federal system of government in Canada: "That myth deserves to be laid to rest once and for all.

"Let us state bluntly and clearly that the only change made to the balance of the federal system is to increase the powers of the provinces—that is to shift the balance in their favour."

He said that the proposals had been thoroughly debated in Ottawa; all MPs who wished had put their views. So there should be no doubts in London that the package would have been thoroughly debated by the people of Canada and their representatives in the Parliament.

It now has the support of members of Parliament from every province in Canada and is supported by two political parties who together received about two-thirds of the votes cast at the last general election", he said.

Wartime charges: Herr Arpad Wigand, a former SS officer accused of ordering the deaths of Jews in Warsaw during the Second World War, on his way to court in Hamburg where he faces trial with two wartime colleagues. Herr Wigand, aged 75, a first lieutenant in the SS, who served as a Warsaw police magistrate, is accused of having one man shot who refused to give up some furs and ordering the deaths of 50 people who were unable to work in concentration camps. He is also accused of the deaths of about 90 people who were being sent to the Treblinka concentration camp.

Concern in Delhi over US arms for Pakistan

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, March 25

India has expressed to the United States its "grave concern" over the supply of a "large quantity of arms" to Pakistan and over the militarization of the Gulf region.

The Indian Foreign Ministry also summoned early this week the British High Commissioner and the West German Ambassador in Delhi to express its unhappiness over the West's arms supplies to Pakistan.

Mr Narasimha Rao, the Foreign Minister, told Parliament today that he had personally conveyed his concern to the United States Embassy in Delhi.

Mr Rao said that India always wanted Pakistan to be stable, which meant that it should have enough arms to defend itself, but the quantity of arms being acquired by Pakistan seemed to be disproportionate to its actual requirements.

He, however, rejected an MP's demand for a regional summit to discuss mutual matters, saying that this was likely to prove counter-productive. But he told the House that India had agreed to take part in a preliminary meeting of foreign ministers of the region to be held soon.

Denying that India was shying away from making a strong protest to the United States against the arming of Pakistan, Mr Rao said: "Our concern should be judged from the fact that arms supplies in the past had usually resulted in a setback to normalization within the subcontinent. All these years, we have been assuring Pakistan that India poses no threat to its security. We have also advised it against an arms build-up since that creates unnecessary tension".

Mr Rao again said that Pakistan had rejected India's offer of a non-aggression pact, saying that normalization could be attained through the Simla agreement signed between India and Pakistan after the Bangladesh war in 1972.

India could not be equated with Pakistan in the matter of acquisition of arms, he went on. The fact was that with the stated purpose of deterring "Soviet adventurism" and protecting vital Western interests in the Gulf region, the United States was likely to supply to Pakistan a variety of advanced weapons including aircraft, tanks, anti-tank missiles and air defence systems.

United States spokesmen had referred to the possibility of supplying arms to Afghan rebels, though Pakistan had said it would not allow its territory to be used for this purpose. "While noting this statement", Mr Rao said, "we would like to make it clear that an active participation in building up a 'security consensus' in terms of great-power rivalries would be inconsistent with the professions that Pakistan had made while joining the non-aligned movement in Havana."

Nuclear explosion: Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, said today that if the need was felt for setting off another nuclear explosion for peaceful purposes "we shall go ahead with it".

Mrs Gandhi was replying in Parliament to a question why India had not carried out further such explosions as that in Rajasthan in 1974.

Dr Raja Ramanna, the director of India's Atomic Research Centre, told foreign correspondents on February 3 that India had no plans to set off another nuclear explosion.

Suspender belt inventor awarded $31m

Los Angeles, March 25.—A Norwegian immigrant who invented a suspenderless suspender belt for his wife was awarded $31m (£14m) yesterday by a federal jury which found that a clothing company stole his idea.

The jury heard eevidence for six weeks and considered its verdict for two days before awarding judgment to Mr Knut L. Bjorn-Lersen, aged 58.

It found that the clothing company, Munsingwear, of Minneapolis, had infringed on the inventor's patent when it began marketing the Hollywood Vassarette, described as a garterless girdle that is still on the market.

The case has been pending in various courts since 1972. It was not known if Munsingwear would appeal.—UPI.

Britain has 'no choice' on constitutional request

From John Best
Ottawa, March 25

The Government has stated that Anglo-Canadian relations will be severely strained if Westminster refuses to comply with a request from Ottawa to patriate the Canadian constitution.

In a report made public last night by Mr Jean Chrétien, the Justice Minister, the Government said Britain had no choice but to accede to such a request.

The report was essentially a rebuttal of one published earlier this year by a British House of Commons committee, headed by Sir Anthony Kershaw. The Kershaw report, to which the Thatcher Government has still not officially responded, suggested that Westminster should take account of the views of the Canadian provinces, in dealing with the patriation question.

Eight of Canada's 10 provinces oppose the federal Government's resolution now before the Canadian Parliament, asking Westminster to give Canada final control over this country's constitution.

The Canadian constitution is still chiefly embodied in the British North America Act of 1867. The Act is still domiciled in Britain because the federal and provincial governments here have never been able to agree on a system to amend it.

Malaysians lead move away from British universities because of higher fees

From David Watts
Singapore, March 25

Malaysia will shortly set the seal on a new policy to divert its students from the higher educational institutions of Britain to other countries, and the Thai Government is quietly reducing the number of students who will study there in future.

In other South-East Asian countries it is not yet clear what will be the effect of higher charges for foreign students being introduced at British universities this autumn but the increases are likely to mean fewer enrolments from the less well-off countries.

There is bitterness at what many in the area see as a cold-blooded severing of historic ties which, in the long run, will have detrimental effects on trading and cultural links.

But this sense of bitterness is gradually giving way to the recognition that the British Government has no intention of changing its policy and the sooner reality is faced the better. That does not, however, prevent some Government officials criticizing Britain's spending priorities.

For a number of reasons the Malaysians have been the most outspoken. With the largest foreign student contingent in Britain, estimated at 17,000, Malaysian officials are due to meet next week to consider alternative countries for the higher education of the country's brightest pupils.

Datuk Musa Hitam, the Malaysian Minister of Education, has said he is "fed up" with making representations to the British Government and he, and his officials, are looking for alternatives in the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

The situation presents particular problems for the Malaysians, not only because of a lack of alternative facilities at home —and the numbers of students involved—but because many of those going to Britain were of Chinese origin who are discriminated against in Malaysia itself as a result of the Government's policy of promoting Malays in all spheres of life.

There is thus likely to be more pressure for a better deal for the Chinese at home.

Singapore usually has about 2,000 students in Britain at any one time. Traditionally, the Government-sponsored president's scholars go to Britain and the bulk of the rest are sent privately.

The universities of Kent and Sussex have had representatives in the country making their pitches; asserting that British higher education was still the best available and that with three-year courses in British universities and four-year courses in the United States overall costs were probably not that different.

Prudence Glynn

Trust William to strike a cord with teenage girls

Buying books for teenage girls is almost as difficult as buying clothes for them: almost because nothing can compare with the horrors of wasting time and money, the lack of purpose and clear direction and the cultural shocks sustained in the course of vetting what certain stores deem suitable for young women when they are not wearing jeans and yet another sweat shirt.

Buying books can never be a waste of time, and the ones worth reading can all be found under one roof if that roof covers an efficient shop, so feet ache rather more from standing instead of traipsing — a less vicious sort of ache. On the other hand, the choice is no less baffling once you leave the literary equivalent of the jeans and sweat shirt (*Black Beauty, Emma*) and launch yourself into a special occasion number. As the special number droops unworn in the wardrobe, a living reproof to your bad budgeting, inane social aspirations and, above all, your shape, so on the shelf rest dustily all sorts of well-intentioned and seasonally timed gifts of the written word. They have not been opened, let alone read in the bath.

There seem to be two problems to overcome. The first is the very natural, humane and delightful desire to pass on to another the knowledge of something, written, spoken, made, which has brought pleasure into your own life. But remember those smashing school yarns, written and read in perfect innocence, which cause the generation-gapped listeners to fall about with laughter and say that being in love with the games mistress is not necessarily a bad thing. Books on hobbies and recreations are another snare. I have had to find out the hard way that the genre of Exmoor Lass and Other Pony Stories lacks a certain edge now that thieving gypsies who once nabbed your pony would now be after your Metro.

The other problem in choosing books for girls is encountered by those parents and assorted literature-givers who feel that, to prove themselves ageless, they have to know by insight what the young read. That is a great mistake. Intelligent young people look to adults for different opinions, a wider choice, and not competition on whose mental equivalent of disco pants are the tighter. You can glean ideas of what they want to know particularly as the vision of O levels — a very precise discipline — show in the whites of their eyes. They ask if you have read *To Kill a Mockingbird* (yes, but all hopeless old romantics like me only remember Gregory Peck in the film) or *Journey's End*.

This is the moment which calls for stern comment. Forget *Gone with the Wind* when prepping up on history and read *Forever Amber*, just as well written, better researched, less nostalgic and biased. Not such a good film, though.

Thus it was with a certain sense of delight that I received an unexpected book, *Goodnight Mister Tom** intended for teenagers. Mind you, nobody concerned with its presentation had said so, and the jacket hovered somewhere between *Just William Strikes Back* and *Lark Rise to Candleford*. So I gave it to a teenage girl for comment.

I have said that my receipt of the book was qualified, both by immediate reaction to its looks (Ugh) and to its story line. Nor was I impressed by the name of the author and the fact that she was an actress, Michelle Magorian. A fancy, fey name, no good on the stage or how did she have time to write? Nor did my impressions improve when I went to interview the (yes, testing) author, because her stage name is Mikki Magorian. Fake unisex names alarm me far more than dear old romantics like Barbara Cartland. (Barbara Villiers, Lady Castlemaine, Duchess of Cleveland, mistresses of Charles II).

Names are a great precursor of reputations: unfortunately they cause the cynical to form immutable preconceptions about how they will look and be.

So I expected to find Michelle Magorian tiny, elf-like, failed as an actress, Irish and aiming her book like an elephant gun at anyone who came within peppering range.

Well, she is tiny, far from elf-like (one of her recent parts was a teenage interpretation of Humpty Dumpty, and she is, to be frank, very small and round, and what is more her eyes are circular and so is her face). But she seems to me to be bouyant in her profession. She indubitably is Irish/Welsh and she knew precisely for whom she was writing this, her first full length work.

Since she sees herself as an actress as an interpreter between the author of the script and the audience, it is not surprising that her book puts her in much the same role. She often plays parts much younger than her real years — *Goodnight Mister Tom* is for and about much younger people — and she insists that it is imaginative, rather than autobiographical.

She lived a comfortable if peripatetic life as the oldest (she is 33) of four children born to a "a very respectable, tea-on-the-lawn" mother and a naval father from the Irish labouring class and was educated in a convent.

William, the little boy in her story, brought up in a nasty home in the East End of London and is evacuated to "Candleford" to the care of an elderly single male. The terrified boy and creeky pensioner discover each other's loneliness while daffodils and lambs heal the urban sores. The decrepit Bible-thumping mother (Miss Magorian is a lapsed Catholic) summons the boy home and nearly kills him.

There are the added horrors of a new-born illegimate baby hidden in a drawer and given to the brutalized little boy to nurse. The baby dies, authority is cruel to be kind. After the arrival of the elderly man plus faithful dog, the child returns to the arms of nature, healing friends and the great soft overwhelming wings of love. The end is ambivalent, as all good ends should be — you make of it what you will.

The message is clear: love and courage and good can still win. Miss Magorian insists that her adult characters are not just black and white, but are, as we all are, mixtures, which modern children accept.

The teenager who read it for me thought it was a marvellous book, exciting and real — "Of course she put tape over the baby's mouth to stop it crying" — totally comprehensible, not patronising. She loved the country allusions, which are now strong in herself.

I was saddened that 40 years on the lessons to society of the maltreatment of children seem to have made so little progress, and hope that the lesson of love and individual care above state welfare will strike a chord in the next generation. Perhaps they will.

*Kestrel Books, £5.50

Escaping the duplicity of words

There is something very un-English about mime, that ritualized self-parody of exaggerated movements, as if too embarrassing for northern tastes. At least, that was true until a few years ago when teachers or performers of mime were doomed to ragged audiences and draughty halls and none of the adulation they were used to receiving in Europe and America.

Then in 1978 an American mime performer called Adam Darius, who had studied under Russsian emigré teachers, written several books on the subject, taken his act, like Peter Brook, across the Third World, and performed before Emperor Bokassa, settled on London as the place to found a school of mime. His hunch has proved right: today there is fierce competition for a place on the gruelling course, £400 fee and a 9.30 - 6.30 day. The venture was made possible by Adam Darius's partner, Marita Phillips, a blonde and graceful girl, herself of Russian ancestry, who started the school on private money and now makes it pay.

It is not mime as we know it. Rather, a day-long session of limbering up, with classes in acting, jazz, make up and commedia dell'arte to give the students a kind of physical fluidity and loss of self. Though he also teaches the classic forms of mime,



Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

Marita Phillips and Adam Darius: a gruelling course.

Adam Darius talks of them with some scorn. "Illusionary mime", he says, "is visual ventriloquism, a form of theatrical deceit. Indian mime is purely depictional".

His own style, he says, can be thought of as method miming, "organic emotions expressed from within" thereby "freeing the psyche while controlling the physique." Certainly, it is fine to watch an extraordinarily controlled and rhythmic display, no movement that does not flow from the one that preceded it, neither quite dance, nor theatre, nor acrobatics.

Few of the students have done anything of the kind before. They are all over 17 and come out of a desire, says Adam Darius, to escape the duplicity and deceptiveness of words. Increasingly, too, they seem to come because as actors, teachers, opera singers they have started to feel the need for the kind of total expressiveness allied to ferocious discipline over their bodies that only this punishing routine can give.

It is not an easy life. To miss a class by being late is to be barred from Adam Darius's own mime session — there are 10 teachers in all — and to miss too many of those is to forfeit the final certificate.

During their three months the students have to prepare a solo performance for graduation. Adam Darius, a feathery man seemingly made of rubber, is a punctilious and exigent teacher.

The Mime Centre goes by the lofty name of Academy. If it looks seedy — a church hall in Kentish Town strung about with posters about boy scouts' forthcoming events, the students elegantly inelegant in ragged T-shirts and wool dancers' socks — the school none the less has a purposeful air of something that is really working.

Whether or not, as he suggests, the centre is actually pioneering a new art form, Adam Darius may be right in his hunch that the English are finally ready for such things.

Caroline Moorehead

And so to supper

The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

Looking up words is a compulsion born of proper caution about making avoidable mistakes which are downright humiliating. It tends to be time-consuming too, because with a decent dictionary there is so much else to read in the adjoining columns and no telling when an unlikely Scrabble or crossword winner will turn up.

It was thus I learned that supper is not only a meal but also a verb meaning to provide with or entertain at supper. That it covers giving the last meal of the day to horses or cattle as well we will, for the present, pass over.

To supper one's friends after the theatre or some other diversion is a delightful way of rounding off a pleasant evening. And if home is not too far, even more enjoyable round your own table than in a restaurant popular enough to enjoy a late night rush.

Suppers of this kind are, ideally, light and simply prepared — not much more than posh snacks really. Champagne cocktails made with Pimms and nothing too distinguished in the way of wine are just the reviver to sharpen up appetites and give the cook 15 minutes in which to perform a modest miracle.

Assuming that a certain amount of preparation is possible earlier in the day, or the previous evening, a number of possibilities present themselves. A luxurious quiche made with asparagus or smoked salmon does not take long to heat up, and, served with green salad, which should be well varied and well dressed, can be relied upon not to give anyone nightmares. Soup followed by cold meats (served at room temperature not straight from the fridge), with new or sauté potatoes and a tomato salad, is another fuss-free choice. Smoked trout or a fish mousse followed by creamy herb omelettes, or a soufflé (prepared in advance up to the point of beating the egg whites) are more ambitious.

Small fillet steaks with a green peppercorn and herb sauce are even grander. With this dish I would offer fresh fruit or a pudding in preference to a first course, and suggest a moist orange almond cake.

Of the dozens of versions of steak au poivre, this is my favourite. Whether the steaks are small or thick, you should be able to fit all six into one decent sized frying or sauté pan.

Steak au poivre
Serves six

6 fillet steaks
4 tablespoons green peppercorns
½ teaspoon dried thyme
½ teaspoon dried rosemary
½ teaspoon dried tarragon
½ teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon moutarde de Meaux
2 tablespoons peanut oil
30 g (1 oz) butter
1 tablespoon mild French mustard
4 tablespoons cognac
300 ml (½ pint) single cream

Trim the steaks and pat them dry. Mix together the green peppercorns, thyme, rosemary, tarragon, salt and moutarde de Meaux. Spread the mixture on both sides of the steaks.

Heat the oil in a heavy frying or sauté pan and when it is hot, add the butter which should melt and froth quickly. Before the butter starts to burn, add the steaks, and as soon as the first side is sealed, turn down the heat and cook them as quickly and evenly as you can, turning them over when they are half done. There is no substitute for judgment here as the time they take to cook will depend on the thickness of the meat and how well done you like it.

A chef will test meat by pressing it with his fingers — like choosing a Camembert. It is a skill that takes practice to develop. Failing such expertise, the only alternative is to jab one of the steaks with a pointed knife and see how it is doing.

When the steaks are very nearly as cooked as required, sprinkle them with the brandy and ignite it immediately. As soon as the flames have died down, remove the steaks to a heated serving dish. Stir the mild mustard into the pan juices followed immediately by the cream. Stir the mixture thoroughly and let it boil until reduced by about a quarter. Check the seasoning and pour it over the steaks.

Serve the steaks immediately with new potatoes, or the best green salad you can muster at this time of year, and hot French bread.

Orange Almond Cake
Serves six to eight

3 juicy oranges
55g (2 oz) fresh white breadcrumbs
110 g (4 oz) ground almonds
110 g (4 oz) caster sugar
4 large eggs, separated
½ teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon orange flower water

Finely grate the zest of one of the oranges and squeeze the juice from all three. Combine the breadcrumbs, ground almonds, and orange zest and stir in the orange juice.

In another bowl combine the sugar, egg yolks and salt. Beat the mixture until it is light and fluffy, then fold it into the first mixture.

Whisk the egg whites until they hold a firm peak and fold them into the cake mixture. Pour the mixture into a shallow loose-bottomed 25 cm (10 inch) cake tin which has been well buttered and dusted with breadcrumbs. Bake the cake in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for about 50 minutes.

Allow the cake to cool in its tin for about 10 minutes before turning it on to a wire rack. To serve, dust the cake with sifted icing sugar, or with a thick layer of whipped cream which may be plain, sweetened, or flavoured with an orange liqueur.

PARLIAMENT, March 25, 1981

Mrs Thatcher insists on overall EEC fisheries agreement

House of Commons
The Prime Minister, reporting to the House on the European Council meeting in Maastricht, Holland, on Monday and Tuesday, said she had spent most of her time saying "No" and saying it rather vehemently in relation to proposals on fisheries policy.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C) said: All those present emphasized the need to continue the fight against inflation through the pursuit of sound monetary policies. We agreed on the need to encourage productive investment, particularly in the sectors of high technology and innovative enterprise. We all share the deep concern at the high and rising rate of unemployment, particularly youth unemployment in member countries. We determined to make the best possible use of existing funds and financial mechanisms, among other things, in providing advanced technological training and education for youth. The clear and unanimous view was expressed that short-term demand stimuli would be ineffective.

On fisheries, there was an attempt to deal with outstanding agreements with Canada and the Faroes in isolation from the measures to improve the fish marketing arrangements which were offered as a quid pro quo did not in my view provide sufficient protection to our industry.

I insisted and it was agreed that it would be much better to deal with these external fisheries questions in the context of an overall fisheries settlement as we have been trying to do for so long. It was therefore decided that the fisheries council would meet on Friday of this week to try to reach agreement.

In our view, agreement on an overall settlement was close in the fisheries council last December. If each and every member now has a genuine willingness to settle, it should be possible to find solutions. For our part, we are seeking early agreement on a basis which will secure the vital interests of our own fishing industry.

The heads of state and government decided unanimously to confirm the status quo in regard to the provisional places of work of the European institutions.

The third main subject was Poland, where the events of the past few days had naturally caused us concern. Our message once again was that the problems of Poland are for the Polish people to resolve: any other attitude than this could have the gravest consequences for international relations in Europe and world wide. So far as the economic situation in Poland is concerned, we expressed the readiness of our Governments to continue, in conjunction with others and within the limits of our means, to contribute to the recovery of the Polish economy thereby complementing the efforts of the Polish people themselves.

The Council adopted statements on a number of other political subjects. We took note of the progress registered by the Netherlands presidency in following up the Venice declaration of June, 1980, on the Middle East.

We endorsed the statement made last week by the President of the United Nations Security Council in support of the United Nations Force in the Lebanon, to which some of our European partners contribute.

We pledged our support for any initiative likely to contribute to the restoration of Afghanistan as an independent, non-aligned and neutral state.

And finally, we congratulated the people of Spain on their defeat of the recent challenge to democracy in a country which in due course we look forward to welcoming as a member of the European Community.

This meeting enabled the heads of government to have a businesslike discussion and to reaffirm their determination to work together in tackling the major issues facing their governments.

Britain wants a square deal from Community

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab), questioning the Prime Minister on her statement, said: We certainly share the concern which was expressed at the summit meeting about the situation in Poland and we concur with the view that this is a matter entirely for the Polish people. We trust there will be no attempt elsewhere to influence the decision that they wish to reach.

On Spain I fully concur with what she and the others said at the meeting and we congratulate the people of Spain in having rejected this challenge to their newly found democracy. We wish to do everything in our power to sustain the democratic institutions that they have established there.

On fisheries, which obviously played a big part according to the reports, we reiterate what we have said on many occasions, that so long as the Government sustains the legitimate interests of this country it will have our fullest support in the efforts it makes in that direction. We will watch carefully to ensure that that occurs.

We were a bit concerned about the interview given by one Government spokesman earlier in the week which seemed to suggest that the Government was in some way departing from the undertakings it gave. I hope we will have the reaffirmation from her that the Government stands absolutely by what it confirmed to the House before and that there will be no departure from those undertakings when the meeting takes place on Friday.

We entirely agree with what she has said on many occasions, that this is a matter to be dealt with on its merits, entirely separate from any other question. We trust this is the undertaking and line which the Government will take.

On the more general questions that arose at the meeting, does she not think that when they met to discuss these matters in the gravest economic situation that the western world has had to face since 1945, the communique and her statement are pitifully inadequate to deal with mass unemployment on this scale?

At the meeting only a few months ago an undertaking was given that the institutions of the Community would examine ways of meeting this and would continue to use Community instruments to reduce the structural unemployment. Since then the situation has continued to deteriorate in an appalling manner.

It happens that it has deteriorated worse in this country than even the other countries. I have no doubt that that put her at some disadvantage in the meetings.

Does she now say that the Government, and those with whom she was meeting at the summit, have no more concrete measures to put before the country and the world? There has been a promise of a meeting of *finance ministers. What fresh* proposals for dealing with unemployment on this tragic scale has the British Government got?

Mrs Thatcher: The Minister of Agriculture has made a practice which he will continue, of taking with him representatives of the fishing industries when he negotiates matters concerning the common fisheries agreement.

My purpose was to prevent agreement being concluded in isolation from the main common fisheries policy. Had I agreed that, our fishing industry, which is suffering from sufficient imports without having to risk having more, which the conclusion of this agreement would have inevitably meant, would have had to face more fish imports crossing our shores.

We are all suffering from unemployment. There are some countries in the Community which have a higher percentage of unemployment than we have. They confirmed that the main course of action on which we are embarked is the correct one.

Short-lived stimuli would not be effective. We have to embark on longer-term policies.

The conclusions were that we are suffering from two main things at the moment. A world recession is contributing to the rising price of oil which was $11 a barrel when I took office and which Opec have got up to $36 a barrel. We are also suffering from structural changes as things are produced in other countries which used to be produced here.

We have to relieve the effects of these structural changes and concentrate investment on productive industries and not concentrate it always on the industries of yesterday. It seemed to me that those were wise conclusions.

Mr Foot: About the proposed meeting in June of the finance, industry and labour ministers, can she say when she will present to the House any fresh measures for dealing with this increase in unemployment?

Mrs Thatcher: It is expected that what is called the jumbo council will meet in June and it is hoped that the Commission will make strenuous efforts to put proposals before that council.

It is certainly true that the level of unemployment is now higher in the Community than it was in the last oil recession. On average the last oil recession it was in the last oil recession in the Community as 4½ per cent in the Community as a whole. Now it is 7½ per cent. We are concerned that we should have longer-term solutions and not short-term stimuli.

Mr Iain Sproat (Aberdeen, South, C): Will she lose no opportunity to remind our EEC partners that given the high percentage of fish that we contribute to the EEC waters the quotas are generous to our EEC partners. Could she give a categoric assurance that at no time did she come to any compromise in advance of the meeting to the disadvantage of our fishing industry?

Mrs Thatcher I can give him that assurance. I spent most of my time on fisheries matters saying "No", and saying it rather vehemently. This country brings some 60 per cent of the water and fish to the Community. We require a square deal from the Community.

Mr James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull, West, Lab): Two short weeks ago the French were the villains of the piece. They were in the dock. What has happened in the meantime for the switch? Now we are the odd-man-out and are being so categorized by our allies in the council.

Mrs Thatcher: What has happened is that they wish us to agree to conclude two agreements with third countries, namely Canada, which would benefit German fishing industry but harm our industry, and with the Faroes, which would harm our industries and we did not wish to conclude these agreements separate from the common fishing agreement.

Either of those agreements would have meant substantial imports of fish into this country directly or indirectly from fish which under those agreements might have displaced other fish in Europe which would then have come here.

I could not possibly agree to the conclusion of these agreements without having a proper common fisheries policy, which would give our fishermen confidence in the future so that they knew where they were going to fish and that their income was assured.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C): Will she confirm that the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries will in no way give way on any matter on which he has stood firm in the last week and that when he goes to Brussels he will go in the knowledge that this House will not accept any common fisheries policy under duress from the French or the Germans.

Mrs Thatcher: I share and endorse the confidence in the Minister and the Minister of State (Mr Buchanan-Smith) to conclude a good deal for our industry.

Their task would have been a lot easier if the last Minister had done better for a common policy and concluded a better deal on fishing when they extended the limit to 200 miles.

Bill to save Liverpool and London docks

If the Government had refused help, the ports of London Liverpool would have had to c trading next week, Mr Nor Fowler, Secretary of State Transport, said in moving second reading of the Pr (Financial Assistance) Bill. two ports, he added were so on verge of bankruptcy that it w have come next week.

Mr Fowler (Sutton Coldfield, said both ports had been affec by containerization and changes in cargo handling. E had a surplus of about 1, workers: 1,000 registered d workers and 500 others. That the central problem they faced.

The Government had decid that the best way of tackling problem was by means of spe severance supplement for a limi period. Neither port had money to pay for it and the was to provide the necess funds.

On February 17 he announced a supplementary p ment of up to £5,500 per *added to the payment availa* under the ports' own natic severance scheme which mean maximum payment of £16,000.

The appeal and success of special severance scheme essential to the future of the port authorities. So far workers had accepted the off 474 at London and 522 Liverpool—which represented 8 per cent of the registered w force in London and nearly 14 cent in Liverpool. A good start been made.

He hoped volunteers would tinue to come forward at the rent rate. The present gene terms were only available for a month period. It was not the ernment's intention to repeat extend it to other ports.

The Bill concerned £87m of money and did not attempt detailed breakdown of money tween the two ports. It was tended to maintain maximum fl bility and not to create the si tion that either port expected right to draw the whole or e part of these funds unless he definite benefits.

He accepted that some im diate further financial assista was necessary but the Governm was not committed to suppor the two port authorities bey May when the results of the spe severence scheme were known.

The Government would consider whether it would be ju fied to continue to provide aid the autumn, by which time expected to have received fi plans for returning both ports profitability.

I will only be prepared to vide further assistance under Bill (he said) if the authorities demonstrate substantial prog towards reducing manpower limiting restrictive practices. I convinced that all concerned committed to making the chan needed.

The Opposition's amendr would deny Government assist to the ports and would not any other port. The effect of amendment would be that the ports would be in danger of ing trading on or shortly Wednesday of next week.

Mr Albert Booth, chief Oppos spokesman on transport (Bar in-Furness, Lab) moved an am ment declining to give a sec reading to a Bill which did provide assistance for other p as well.

He said that the rundown registered dockworkers was dras tic, having been reduced fr 80,000 in 1947 to less than 23, now. The Government was indu ing in an ad hoc piecem approach to a problem which co only be solved by a national p for the ports industry.

The Bill showed a complete l of grasp of the national ports uation and created an artific distinction between London a Liverpool and the rest of the po industry. It would create pressi for a rise in the general level severance pay in the industry a time when it would be hard meet this.

The time had come for the G ernment to face the need for realistic ports policy to deal wi basic issues on which the future the industry depended.

Mr Eric Ogden (Liverpool, W Derby, Lab) said this Bill provid the desperately needed help f which Merseyside had been askin It should not be denied to Merse side simply because it was n available at this date to oth ports.

Mr Barry Porter (Bebington a Ellesmere Port, C) said there w nothing reasonable about t amendment. He hoped that nobo on the Opposition benches who h any thought of saving these tw ports from imminent bankrupt would support it.

Mr William Waldegrave (Brist West, C) said that at the Brist port there were 600 people abo requirements, but voluntary redu dancies had now dried up. T port was past the verge of ban ruptcy and trying to find ways ou The situation had been made dr matically worse by the supplemen tary scheme.

The opposition amendment w rejected by 137 votes to 81 government majority, 56.

The Bill was read a second tim

New road signs and markings to be proposed

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, said at question time that the revised traffic signs regulations which he hoped to lay before the House by Easter would introduce some new signs and road markings.

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury, C): This is the International Year of the Disabled, yet the Highway Code contains no signs specifically for the disabled or to warn motorists that they are likely to come to a crossing widely used by disabled people.

Among the signs he intends to *promote, will one relate to disabled people?*

Mr Fowler: Yes. We have recognized in this year the needs here. The new signs we will be proposing will include a warning sign on crossing points frequently used by disabled people. I hope that will be of help.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L): Will he look at section 2 of the Disabled Persons Act and see if he can give some power to local authorities to adopt legal rights to prevent other members of the public parking on double yellow lines in areas reserved for the disabled?

Mr Fowler: That is something we have suggested.

Insurance discs

The compulsory display on a vehicle of a certificate stating that insurance had been paid would present considerable practical difficulties, **Mr Kenneth Clarke**, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said on a question calling for legislation for such a certificate.

Conference centre

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, in a written reply, said that following preliminary discussion with representatives of leading firms of chartered surveyors, he had commissioned Healey and Baker to invite, and advise him on, offers of private finance for the construction of the superstructure of the conference Centre on Broad Sanctuary, Westminster.

No-strike provision not excluded from talks on Civil Service pay deal: 7% must stand

The Government would stand by its 7 per cent offer to the Civil Service and the unions had been told there was no more money this year, **Mr Barney Hayhoe**, Minister of State, Civil Service Department, said at question time.

The possibility of a no-strike agreement was not excluded from any discussions that might take place, he added.

Mr Hayhoe (Hounslow, Brentford and Isleworth, C) recalled that he *and Lord Soames, Lord President* of the Council, told the Civil *Service unions on February 23* that the Government intended to review the present arrangements for determining the pay of non-industrial civil servants with the object of establishing as soon as practicable an agreed and ordered system.

Further meetings have been held since then (he went on) and we have been able to assure the unions that the review will cover matters of concern to them such as independent fact-finding, comparisons with outside terms and conditions, and arbitration, as well as all other relevant factors.

Future arrangements for negotiating and determining non-industrial Civil Service pay will, of course, depend on the outcome of the review.

Mr Kenneth Lewis (Rutland and Stamford, C): Since the Government has already increased the original offer made to the civil servants, does the minister recognize that it is important that this should be a final offer and should not be increased. The public do not appreciate striking by civil servants.

Will he bring the leaders of the unions together and ask them to consider whether it is not in their own interests as well as those of the country that they should have a new formula for next year and accept that?

Mr Hayhoe: I can give him the assurance that the 7per cent offer is the most that can be found from the Civil Service cash limits this year.

The Government is going to stand clearly by that figure; the unions have been told that there is no more money *this year.*

The settlements generally in outside industry have been coming down into single figures and it is only right that the Civil Service should take its part in this general restraint.

I do not believe there is public sympathy for the claims being made by the leaders of the Civil Service unions for a higher increase this year.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet, Chipping Barnet, C): Would the *minister say if there has been* complete cooperation by the civil servants in the planned reduction *in their numbers from 730,000 to* 630,000 by 1984?

Would he reaffirm that the pay of the Civil Service should be based on the skill and importance of the job and what the country can afford, and should not be measured by the numbers of people working in any particular department.

Mr Hayhoe: The Civil Service has been cooperating with the Government in bringing down the numbers both by finding more efficient ways of tackling work and giving up work which is no longer necessary.

The pay of the civil servants, as all others, should be commensurate not with the numbers of people in the departments but with the work they are doing.

Mr Alan Williams, an Opposition spokesman (Swansea, West, Lab): Can we have a categorical assurance that it is the Government's intention to return to an agreed system of pay assessment for the Civil Service for the next pay round?

The arbitrary and unilateral abandonment of the pay research unit was a major factor in persuading many civil servants to support the strike.

In view of the damage being caused by the disruption and the Chancellor's appeal on Monday, is there not an appalling lack of urgency in coming forward with firm, specific proposals for an alternative system?

Would the minister confirm that there is within Whitehall a dilatory working party which is dawdling along and meeting only once a week?

Mr Hayhoe: It comes extraordinarily ill from Labour to attempt to criticize us for suspending the pay agreement. In the last 10 years that agreement has been operated on five occasions—four times under Conservative governments and only once under Labour.

We on this side will accept no criticisms or strictures from the Labour side *on this.*

I can confirm that it is our intention to return to an ordered and agreed system as soon as practicable. As for 1982, I hope that will be possible.

The sooner we return to normal work, the sooner discussions can proceed on these matters the faster the new agreement can be made. There can be no certainty at this stage that it would be available for 1982.

Mr Christopher Patten (Bath, C): Is the minister prepared to discuss with the Civil Service unions the negotiation in the future of no-strike agreements in return for index-linked pensions and an agreed formula of arbitration backed by the force of law?

Mr Hayhoe: I have seen the extremely interesting letter from Mr Patten and his colleague in *The Times* today and the suggestion *it* makes. The subject of a no-strike agreement and any possible linking is not excluded from any discussions which may be held.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer (Batley and Morelev, Lab): This is in no sense a political strike but action by a large group of workers who are deeply and genuinely angry at the unilateral way the Government is acting as an employer.

The unions are prepared to go to arbitration tomorrow and the Government is refusing to do that.

Mr Hayhoe: I do not believe this is a political strike. Noone on this side has suggested otherwise.

What a sorry day it would be for the country if the civil servants, or any others, indulged in industrial action purely for political ends. I hope this will be condemned on the Opposition side as firmly as we condemn it on this side.

Mr Hayhoe also informed **Mr Robert Cryer** (Keighley, Lab) that about 356,000, or 67 per cent, of non-industrial civil servants were currently paid below the national average earnings figure for full-time adults of £120.80 per week.

Mr Cryer: *This demonstrates the* strength of the civil servants' case *and their strong feelings* about their wages.

Following the miners' strike, the civil servants may take the view that the Government only understands the strength of industrial muscle and that they now have to demonstrate this against the Government in order to bring it to the negotiating table.

He asked what the minister thought about civil servants receiving less than the national average wage while the chairman of the Nat West Bank received a 31 per cent increase.

Is the minister (he added) going to condemn that increase in the private sector as well as the civil servants' claim?

Mr Hayhoe: When a Labour Government was in office a higher percentage were *receiving* less than the average national wage than at present.

In response to another question, the minister said: I have already indicated that the question of no-strike agreements is *certainly* not excluded. I have seen no indication from the Civil Service unions themselves that such a proposal would meet with their approval at this time.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Debate on CAP price proposals and development of livestock production in Ireland.

House of Lords
Today at 3: Supreme Court Bill, report. Debate on need for more effective system of mental after-care.

Minister awaits ninth Channel tunnel plan

The Government believed that there could be a commerically viable scheme for a Channel tunnel supported by private risk capital, **Mr Norman Fowler**, Secretary of State for Transport, said.

Mr Fowler (Sutton Coldfield, C) said that he welcomed the report of the Transport Select Committee on the Channel link, but before he responded to it he would wish to study fully the various proposals being put to him by potential promoters. That would clearly take a little time.

He hoped to be able to reach decisions of principle before the end of the year.

Mr Phillip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab): The committee broadly endorsed the principle of a single track rail tunnel along the lines of the two railway organizations. He ought to publish a White Paper as the select committee recommended so that the House could draw its conclusions on the thinking that will lead him to the decision in principle.

Mr Fowler: I will consider that proposal in my response to the report. I welcome the general endorsement not only of the principle of the Channel tunnel but of the Goverment's policies towards it.

Mr Ronald Lewis (Carlisle, Lab): Does he accept that the BR proposal is broadly in line with that of the select committee?

Mr Fowler: We have eight schemes before us at the moment, including the British Rail scheme. The select committee has gone nearer to the seven metre scheme than the six metre scheme.

There is nothing between us on the principle of the Channel tunnel or the importance this will represent for the railway industry.

Sir Albert Costain (Folkestone and Hythe, C): Does he appreciate the importance of an early decision for my constituents? My constituents who were against the first scheme are mainly in favour of the British Rail proposal.

Mr Fowler: If we can find a commercially viable scheme there is no reason why this scheme should not go ahead with private capital.

Mr John Prescott, an Opposition spokesman on transport (Kingston upon Hull, East, Lab): Can he confirm that it is still his policy to finance this project with risk capital, with no Government guarantees?

Mr Fowler: I can confirm that we believe that there is a commercially viable scheme here and there is no reason why that should not be supported by private risk capital.

We are looking at the eight schemes and will shortly have a ninth and I will then be in a better position to answer him fully.

Mr Roger Moate (Faversham, C): Can he confirm that private risk capital for any such ventures will not be guaranteed by the Government? Can he confirm investment will not involve any diversion of British Rail funds that would be used for more important British Rail investment projects?

Mr Fowler: Yes, we are talking about private risk capital as I made clear right from the beginning. His second question is one of the things we will want to bear in mind when considering these schemes.

Farmers' incomes down but production up

House of Lords
The Minister of Agriculture must continue to resist the revaluation of the green pound if Britain's competitive position to sell against European produce was not to be destroyed. **Lord Gisborough** (C) said when opening a debate on the problems facing British agriculture.

He said that positive monetary compensatory amounts had risen not because of Britain's trading strength but because of her oil strength. Only a reduced inflation rate compared with the EEC average could justify a revaluation.

However, farm price increases had to be paid for. The agreement to cut Britain's budget bill ran for only two years and there was no reason to suppose that the problem of large food imports would have gone by then.

Reform of the common agricultural policy was called for by all but there were no signs of positive proposals being put forward.

One of the most important but neglected aspects of farming was marketing. Many producers had a high quality grading discipline but far too many did not. A central marketing body, like that of France or Germany, would counter some of the inroads into this country of foreign produce and help the sales of British produce abroad.

Lord Peart (Lab) for the Opposition, said the National Farmers' Union believed that agriculture was facing a crisis. The EEC farm price package from the Commission failed completely to meet the need for substantial increases in United Kingdom farm prices and adoption of the package would be disastrous for the industry.

Britain had attained 70 per cent self-sufficiency in a temperate type of food production yet they spent £2,500m importing food they could grow themselves. That had to be put right. Expansion of home production was good for the national economy and a sound investment for farmers and consumers.

They must not contemplate leaving the EEC but see what they could achieve there. We must (he said) be as ruthless as our EEC partners and if necessary occasionally even more ruthless.

Lord Mackie of Benshie (L) said that high interest rates had hit hardest at those farmers who had been spending money trying to modernize. Inflation and high interest rates had done more harm to agriculture than any other factors.

Lord Elphinstone (C), in a maiden speech said it was now being suggested that in order to cut EEC surpluses, co-responsibility levies should be raised. It meant British farmers were being asked not to produce as much. This would cause distress to the sections of the industry that fell in with previous Government suggestions that they would be rewarded for following expansionist lines.

Lady Elliot of Harwood (C) said many EEC countries gave enormous subsidies to their own farmers. The French were subsidizing their farmers to the tune of £450m, which was out of all proportion to what the British Government did. Such anomalies must be dealt with in current EEC negotiations.

Lord Woolley said they had to be more realistic about the EEC. If they tried to fool themselves that they could make things work that were unworkable they were heading for disaster.

By all means they should keep the concept of the CAP and the overall objectives but they must accept the hard fact that they could not implement those objectives in identical ways in different countries.

Earl Ferrers, Minister of State for Agriculture, said the Government was greatly concerned that farm incomes had fallen by 50 per cent in real terms since 1976. Latest figures showed farm borrowings of £3,200m which was just about double the level in February, 1979. The recent cut in MLR could reduce farm borrowings by £150m.

There was a squeeze of varying force in the farming sector throughout the EEC.

They should remember the strengths and achievements of the farming community. Last year, agricultural production reached its highest level ever. It was also the fourth successive year in which they had a record cereals havest, although growing conditions were variable.

In 1970, they produced 60 per cent of the food in this country which they could produce. By 1980, this had risen to 75 per cent.

The common agricultural policy was not perfect and its shortcomings should be improved. If some member states, like the French, introduced national aids, this distorted competition, tended to lead to surpluses, and meant there was not a common agricultural policy.

The debate was concluded.

The Marriage (Enabling) Bill, which removes prohibitions on the marriage of persons related by marriage, passed the committee stage. An amendment stipulating that both marriage parties must have reached the age of 21 was agreed to.

House adjourned, 11.5 pm.

Minister attacks councillors in closed shop controversy

House of Lords
When more Labour-controlled councils were returned after the local government elections, there could be many more cases like that of Miss Joanna Harris who had been dismissed by Sandwell Council for refusing to join a trade union, **Lord Harris of Greenwich** (Soc Dem) said.

He was opening a debate calling attention to the closed shop policies of a number of local authorities under which employees who entered their service when there was no requirement that they *should be members of a trade union* were being required to join a union, with the threat of dismissal if they refused.

He said he was concerned at the practice whereby an employer could introduce a retrospective requirement into employees' conditions of service that they should be members of a *union.*

It was true Miss Harris could take her case to an industrial tribunal, but it was not compensation she wanted. It was her job she wanted as she liked being a poultry inspector. Why should Parliament not be in a position to insist that Miss Harris and others like her were given their jobs back?

Lord Rochester (L) said he still hoped it would not be necessary to introduce any further legislation.

He doubted it would do anything positive to solve the problems of human relationships in industry or local government. But if there were not to be further laws, it was essential for employers and unions to observe those laws enacted last year.

In trade unions as much as in other organizations, bullying was best stamped out by the general body of members combining together for that purpose and in the case of local councils, the electors likewise had a remedy.

Lord Brookes (C), a former chairman of GKN, said in a lifetime in industry he had never knowingly conceded or tolerated a closed shop. He always knew the closed shop to be evil and felt it to be part of his responsibility to deny it.

He deplored the relatively modern trend in management which, on the fragile excuse that closed shops convenienced industrial relations, pressed their employees beyond the bounds of freedom, and even management had made it a condition that "unless you belong to a union you might not have a job". In this matter, management did not have clean hands.

In relation to the stench of Sandwell and the tragedy of the torture of Joanna Harris he was aware that by abstruse legal argument a brilliant Front Bench could seek to defend the indefensible. But that would never override truth and freedom.

The Government stood condemned by the inadequacies of its legislation because that legislation left loopholes which had brought about the suffering of Joanna Harris and others.

The Secretary of State's aspirations to get the right response from responsible trade unionists had been destroyed by extremists. The Government had broken faith with its own manifesto and with the electorate, and allowed evil to occur for which there was no apparent remedy.

There was still time to remedy the *injustices* by introducing reinforcing retrospective legislation to redress these evils.

If they did not, all he could say was "God save freedom, God save England, and God save us from the expedients of politics." (Cheers.)

Lord Bruce of Donington (Lab), for the Opposition, said if Miss Harris felt she had been maltreated or unfairly dismissed then remedies were open to her. It was not ture to say the remedies provided in legislation were of no consequence, otherwise the Government would have not permitted them to remain in force.

The procedures laid down in the Act had not yet been followed. The Government should create a social climate within which good industrial relations could be established. This was the way to proceed rather than trying to legislate on matters that the Government itself admitted were not always susceptible to legislation.

The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said it was of concern that public office and public money was being used to trample on human freedom. Sandwell was the most notorious example, but there were others. What *was worrying was that there might* be more in the pipeline.

Councillor John Edwards, chairman of the Sandwell works committee, claimed his council had a mandate from the electorate to force union membership on all employees, regardless of their wishes. The union in question was Nalgo.

If Nalgo discovered someone employed was not a member, it only had to get in touch with Mr Hodgetts, the personnel director, and he was under instruction to investigate the individual concerned. This meant in effect the local Nalgo official, Mr Faux, faced council employees with the chance of joining the union or being sacked. Mr Faux had said publicly he had no conscience about doing so.

By this process all employees had to join up or get out. Those who objected were weeded-out and, in some cases, like Miss Harris, sacked for sticking to her guns.

The Government opposed the principle of closed shops and shared the public concern over the way these local authorities had acted. It was right the Lords should voice the widely-held criticisms of these actions.

Councillors and those they purported to represent should be aware of the concern that such *intolerable council policies could* cause.

By any normal ethical standards (he said) Councillor Edwards, Mr Hodgetts, Mr Faux and their associates, are thoroughly bad men and their actions thoroughly wicked. I hope that the electors of Sandwell are alert to the kind of action which is being undertaken

The whole difficulty of outlawing closed shops was that one needed the cooperation of employers and they sometimes did not give that cooperation.

He understood the demands for enforced reinstatement in closed shop cases, which was what Joanna Harris wanted, but in the last analysis in a open society it was difficult to force people to work together.

The debate was concluded.

Largest sum for road maintenance

Next year the Department of Transport planned to spend £118m on maintaining trunk roads and motorways, the largest sum ever earmarked for this important service and £16m more than last year, **Mr Norman Fowler**, Secretary of State for Transport said during questions.

This increase (he added) will enable us to renew substantial lengths of our older motorways, many of which have already carried a larger tonnage of traffic than they were designed for 20 years ago.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South-West Staffordshire, C): When was I last able to travel up the M1 and M6 without being held up by extensive road works? Why does he not spend the extra £20m he is squandering in my constituency on the M54 or making the M1 better quicker?

Mr Fowler (Sutton Coldfield, C): We are seeking to reconstruct the M1 because it has come to the end of its design life. It is an essential thing to do.

Gaelic language

Mr William Walker (Perth and East Perthshire, C) was given leave to bring in a Bill to promote broadcasting in Gaelic and to require local authorities in Gaelic-speaking areas to promote the use of Gaelic in drama and music. The Bill was read a first time.

Commissioner resists call for even higher farm price rises

European Parliament
Strasbourg
The 12 per cent average increase proposed by Parliament's Agriculture Committee in the Community's farm prices had not just been pulled out of a hat, **Signor Giosue Ligios**, rapporteur for the committee, said when he opened the debate on prices for the forthcoming year.

This is the fruit (he said) of forecasts on the future development of the world market for agricultural products.

He said agricultural income per unit was down and was not comparable with general incomes. The Agriculture Committee could not accept the Commission's proposal for a 7.8 per cent increase in farm prices. The 12 per cent the committee recommended should encourage the type of productions in deficit or those in which the Community was not self-sufficient. It struck a balance between Community finances and farmers' needs.

The effect would be different in different countries but there would have to be a mechanism to allow the Community, transitionally, to save money and bridge the gap between production costs and income in those countries where there was a devaluation or higher than average inflation.

The committee was unanimous in rejecting the idea of co-responsibility left, right and centre. It contained agriculture spending, but it was now almost a full principle of the CAP. The cause of distortions in the CAP was in the guarantee on certain *products*, a perverse mechanism. It was eating up the budget.

The committee did not like the Commission's proposal on dismantling monetary compensatory amounts. To cut MCA's by five points in the United Kingdom and Germany seemed illogical. A sacrifice had to be made in these countries in the general interest but the committee wanted a proportional reduction, given the difference in the MCA rates paid in Germany and the United Kingdom, with a timetable for dismantling MCA's down to abolition.

Mr G. J. M. Bracks, the Dutch Agriculture minister and President of the EEC Council of Agriculture ministers, said the Community must be careful. Community preference should not be exaggerated so that it led to protectionism, reducing its role in international trade.

Agricultural Ministers were aware of the budgetary problems in many countries but these should not be magnified to the detriment of the CAP.

Mr Harry Notenboom (Netherlands, EPP), for the Budgets Committee, said it wished to remind Parliament that in its own statement in November during a budgetary debate it said that the existing amount for agriculture could not be exceeded for 1981-82 and that additional appropriations would have to be funded from savings.

Miss Gloria Hooper (Liverpool, ED) for the Consumer Protection Committee, said the Commission *had not considered or consulted* adequately with consumer interests.

The committee deplored the Agriculture Committee's attempt to increase the proposed farm prices still further. Food prices would be increased. In future, a product by product analysis should be made because the figure had not been proved.

Mr Elsso Woltjer (Netherlands, Soc) said his group were against the committee report which was protectionist.

Mr Teun Tolman (Netherlands, EPP) said his group felt Parliament was going the *wrong* way in talking about prices policy in the short-term. They must be discussed in the context of reform of the CAP.

Mr David Curry (Essex, North East, ED) said if the Council decided to strip the committee's proposals of the reform element *his group would make Parliament's* life a misery until it made the Council take it back.

We accept the basic truth (he said) that unlimited financial responsibility for production must end, not only for surplus products but for those for which the costs are mounting at an unacceptable rate, which is horrifying. The rate of increase in agricultural spending must be below the increase in community revenue.

The Commission's proposals on MCA's were impossible for the United Kingdom.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, EEC Commissioner for the budget, said if the resolution on the 12 per cent increase was adopted, Parliament would be voting an extra increase of over 1000m European units of account to the 1982 budget.

Own resources were expected to grow by about 11 per cent in the same period, so the Commission's proposals made possible, within the context of the budget, a beginning of re-balancing.

The Committee's proposal would make it impossible not simply to re-balance but even to maintain the present balance. This was inconsistent with Parliament's resolutions since direct elections in 1979.

Mr Brian Hord (London, West, ED) said he wondered how it was that those who could produce more milk and had not acknowledged all the exhortations, were now going to benefit from the super levy. The Commission seemed to be telling them to "win with sin". If nothing was done about this, taxpayers would eventually rebel.

Herr Fritz Gautier (Germany, Soc) said the Commission was giving big cereal farmers higher prices. This did not help those with small acreages.

European workers were having to pay for French "agro-imperialism". Dumping on the world market was unhelpful.

Mr Constantinos Kappos, (Greece, Comm) said the Agriculture Committee's report was so nebulous about countries with special problems. Pious hopes were of no use.

Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, said his recent participation at Maastrich convinced him that the Community must meet all deadlines and not p them off again and again. The must ensure that all their farme had a fair income considering the individual difficulties and the co straints which derived from th economic situation and forecas about budgetary resources.

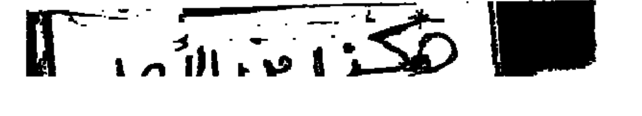
It was said the CAP was to costly but it would be indecent discriminate against agricultur Who cold risk making the farmer situation more precarious an worsening Community unemplo ment already at more than eigh million? Who could deny the su ply advantages brought by th CAP?

The Commission might not ha succeeded in the exact figures bu decisions had been made th morning. Proposals were put to th Council after the Italian devalu tion which eliminated the negati MCA's. This should mean that th picture had changed slightly.

The Commission had made serious effort to weigh th demands to ensure a reasonab development in agricultural in comes while taking account o serious economic and budgetar restraints.

Mrs Barbara Castle (Greater Man chester, North, Soc) said he group felt that farmers shoul have a reasonable income. Bu common prices gave some farmer too much and left others impov erished. The system had broke down and consumers would no take any more increases.

Voting will take place tomorrow (Thursday) on the Agriculture Committee's proposals.



Incomparable festival of theatrical skills

Louisville, Kentucky

Last month the sewers of Louisville went up in a huge explosion that brought manhole covers raining down through roofs and ceilings, and devastated some five square miles of roadway. Happily, the Actors' Theatre escaped unscathed, but, had it slid into the catacombs, it is an even bet that the company would have taken this act of God (or leak of hexane) in their stride and opened the night's show dead on time.

This incomparable organization has just staged its fifth annual season of new American plays: eight productions over three days, heavily supported by local businesses and by the theatre's 18,000 subscribers, and attended by visiting artists, agents, festival planners and critics from more than 30 countries. Of course, the plays are what count. But they were important not only for themselves but as a pretext for celebrating the whole ATL operation: a crack design and stage-management team, a thrilling group of young actors, an administration that never forgets a face or an interview date—all collaborating in the grand exercise that annually reassembles an international theatre community on the desolate, bulldozed bank of the Ohio river. For this event, that devalued word "festival" returns to hard currency.

Predating the present conservation boom, ATL is housed in an old Greek Revival bank, its domed lobby leading either upstairs to the Victor Jory Studio or through the manager's office door to the Pamela Brown Theatre. For both the studio and the main auditorium, Paul Owen has designed a basic set for speedy changeover from play to play, with no dodging the writer's demands—whether these involve transforming a living room into the ocean bed with a diver drifting down from above, or staging simultaneous action between a bar and a moonlit tree high up in the Smoky Mountains.

That said, the blunt fact is that only one satisfactorily articulated full-length play emerged from the three days. Otherwise, there were plays that lost direction in mid-course, plays that ran into quagmires of personal reminiscence (it is always a danger signal on the American stage when some character starts telling you about his childhood), and impenetrably ill-plotted exercises in hillbilly mysticism whose main exponent, the patriarchially bearded Ken Jenkins, sometimes appeared to be running an Appalachian counter-attraction to the main event along the lines of what one of his characters calls a "folk art festival and goat roast".

That succulent line comes from a one-act play on the hazards of inter-state bullfrog trading for which Mr Jenkins gets my vote. Likewise a sizable proportion of the festival's other short pieces. What Jon Jory, the director of ATL, has done this year is to take a stand against the tyranny of the full-length play, and to build his programme around the fact that, no matter what Broadway requires, good plays may require no more than 30 minutes, or 10 minutes. In this department there was some brilliant work, split between two programmes, *Early Days*, (brevities on childhood, college life and Vietnam) and *Shorts* (three more extended pieces including Mr Jenkins with his refrigerator stuffed with unmarketable bullfrog cutlets).



Kathy Bates (*left*) and Susan Kingsley in *Chocolate Cake*

The best of the bunch was Mary Gallagher's *Chocolate Cake*, a nocturnal meeting between two food-obsessed ladies, one a secret-eating slob, the other a smartly tailored secret vomiter, in an isolated motel, with nothing between them and the empty night hours but a hidden cake in the cupboard. The whole action springs from the question of whether Joellen, the jealous owner, will take pity on the desperate Delia and cut her a slice. Before she does, the play takes us through stages of marital despair, rural versus city desolation from the viewpoint of the two food fanatics ("I've been known to cut a cheesecake with my car keys in midtown traffic"), so as to show the development of a sisterhood of apparent opposites. Their contrast is stretched to the limit by Kathy Bates and the wonderful, nervy Susan Kingsley, memorably seen scooping up a Chinese dinner with a motel spatula and toasting fork.

By far the showiest piece on view in Louisville was William Mastrosimone's *Extremities*, a rape play that does more than justice to the brutality of its subject. The opening is pure nightmare. Early morning in a New Jersey farmhouse. A pretty girl puts down her coffee to go out and deal with a wasp, leaving the door open. A man walks in, knowing she is alone, and slams her into submission on the floor. At which point she grabs the wasp spray and fires it into his eyes, and the play goes into reverse.

The first 20 minutes arouse your maximum detestation for the *rapist*, which the remainder of the piece then tests to the limit. The girl ropes him up with a halter round his neck, chains him into the fireplace, beats him, tortures him with lighted matches, and douses him with paraffin ready to be burnt alive and buried in the garden. When her two friends return from work, she has a cast-iron case for killing. As there is no mark on her body, a court may acquit her attacker; even if he is jailed, she will always go in dread of his revengeful return.

The logic is unanswerable, but we are still only halfway through the play, and instead of letting his heroine get on with the job Mr Mastrosimone allows the party to sit around debating what to do next. When this happens the play also sits down. This author can dramatize hatred like nobody's business, and he has a nice line in mordant anti-climax ("What a day!" exclaims the first girl-friend returning with an armful of shopping.) But once he allows the frenzied energy of the first act to subside into schematized debate between the heroine and her welfare-working and formerly raped companions, the play never gets back on course. What never slackens is the authority of Ellen Barber who plays the violated heroine with unappeasable Olympian fury: when actress and text are working fully together, *Extremities* taps the same forces and generates the same terror as *The Bacchae*.

The completely achieved exception among the full-length plays is Wendy Kesselman's *My Sister in this House*, a no less horrifying piece which works through volcanically suppressed feelings rather than violent overkill. Its subject is the same French provincial murder case of the early 1930s which Genet took as his starting point for *The Maids*. Miss Kesselman's play is about what Genet left out, and you could practically insert a performance of *The Maids* into the blackouts of *My Sister*.

The basic story is one of harsh domestic exploitation rebounding on the culprit's head. Mme Danzard engages the two sisters as servants, and works them almost to death; they then kill her and her daughter with the greatest brutality. As Miss Kesselman tells it, this is a story of parallels. Just as the girls were ill-used by their vampire mother, so the young mistress Isabelle Danzard has her blood sucked by the monstrous Madame. There is also a code of behaviour, observed with fierce pride by mistress and servants alike. Both sides agree that the work must be done to perfection, and that there can be no humane contact between them. Madame in the drawing room and Christine (the elder sister) in the kitchen speak of each other in identical terms: "I've never had anyone like her before"; "I trust her with everything." It is acceptable for the employer to inflict physical punishment on the servants. But when she transgresses the code by speaking to them, and attempting to violate their private relationship, then Christine's hand seizes a pewter vase and the mistress's and daughter's brains spatter the floor.

In Jon Jory's production one is long prepared for this by the sight, and the sound, of Christine at the chopping block, preparing each night's delicacies with a sophisticated arsenal of flesh-carving instruments. There are some precarious passages in the text (particularly in the under-developed mother-daughter relationship), but the production offers a complete and beautifully composed image of a way of life. Sound is wonderfully used: the counterpoint of kitchen knives against dining room cutlery, with a clock heavily ticking the girls' youth away. So, too, are the sisters' movements, their frustrations and passions, expressed through mutinous curtsies, murderous polishing and floor scrubbing; and their voluptuous relaxation into a world of masquerade, fine laces and satins, when they enter their room and turn out the light. The sibling performances of Patricia Charbonneau, and Cristine Rose—her features set stonily above a goose-like neck, marked for slaughter from first sight—stamp themselves permanently on the memory in a production that seems to belong more to the great Continental tradition than to anything American.

Irving Wardle

Opera

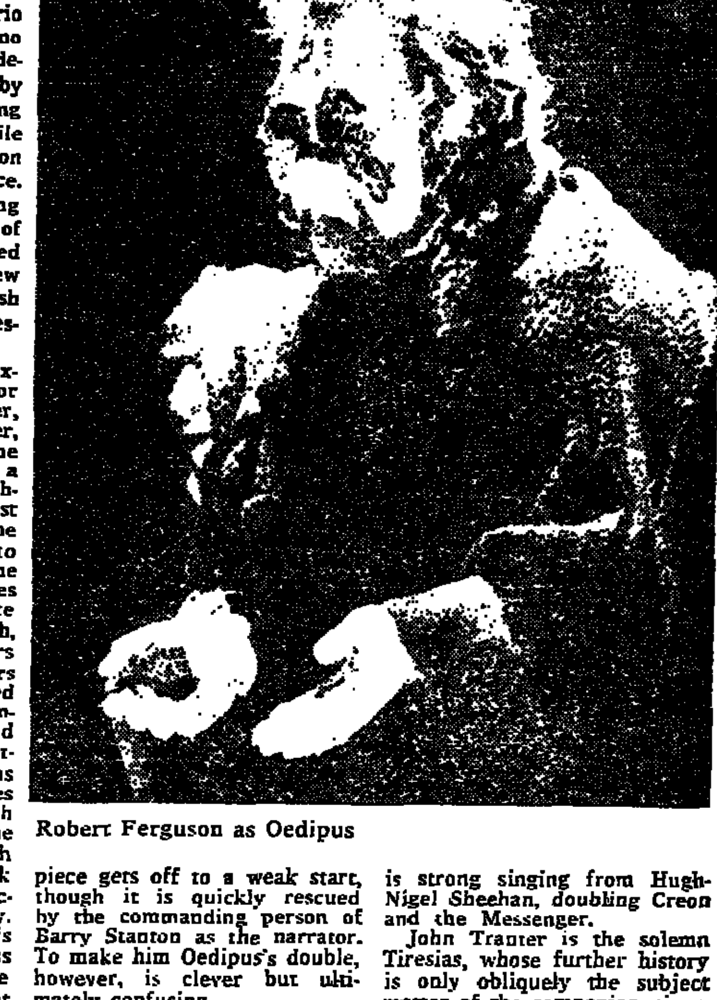
Oedipus Rex
Grand Theatre, Leeds

Paul Griffiths

Stravinsky's opera-oratorio *Oedipus Rex* is a work like no other, a ritual spectacle designed to be presented by masked performers as living statues, singing in Latin while a narrator introduces the action in the language of the audience. It is a difficult piece to bring off in the theatre, but many of its riddles have been solved with Oedipal neatness in a new production unveiled by English National Opera North on Tuesday.

Taking a cue from the Cox-Hockney *Rake's Progress* for Glyndebourne, the producer, Patrick Libby, and designer, Stefanos Lazaridis, range the chorus and principals in a honeycomb of cubicles stretching vertically to cover almost the whole stage opening. The participants thus appear to have dread witnesses in some hellish court, their faces plague-ridden and white: white with the chalk-white of death, which is one of the main colours of the production, the others being only black and blood-red to underline the barbaric impression of an antiquity bound by curse and taboo. Stark lighting by David C. Jackson pins the inhabitants in their boxes with beams that glare through the curling smoke, and the image that is Creon, a South Sea Island totem in skull mask and feathers, gives the production its terrible presiding deity.

Mr Libby and Mr Lazaridis are surely right to remind us that *Oedipus Rex* has very little to do with grace and sunlight and Doric temples. Indeed, their potent, grim stage picture is exactly in accord with an orchestral performance under David Lloyd Jones that puts the emphasis on the savage brilliance of the wind. Unfortunately, the chorus lacks the same attack, which means that the piece gets off to a weak start, though it is quickly rescued by the commanding person of Barry Stanton as the narrator. To make him Oedipus's double, however, is clever but ultimately confusing.



Robert Ferguson as Oedipus

The real Oedipus is Robert Ferguson, a figure of strength and pride, but unhappy in his vocal insecurity and wobble. Josephine Veasey properly takes the opportunity of Jocasta's great aria to repeat the voluptuousness and venom of her Verdi impersonations, and there is strong singing from Hugh-Nigel Sheehan, doubling Creon and the Messenger.

John Tranter is the solemn Tiresias, whose further history is only obliquely the subject matter of the companion piece, Poulenc's *Les Mamelles de Tirésias*. The company's much-acclaimed production is revived still bright and bouncing, with a delicious account of the score under Clive Timms and a cast led by Kate Flowers and Stuart Harling. Everyone has a marvellous time.

Manon Lescaut
Logan Hall

Hilary Finch

The sporadic laughter of a crowd, a jewel robbery, frenzied escape and capture, and slow death of thirst in the desert may not seem at first the ideal stuff of which concert performances of operas are made. And there was, unavoidably, more than a little culture shock on Tuesday at the beginning of the Chelsea Opera's presentation of the one lollipop among the less well-tasted confections of this year's Camden Festival.

Yet in many ways, and if only because it gives us a chance to focus our ears on the orchestral craftsmanship of Puccini's score, *Manon Lescaut* is not ill-suited to the purpose: there is, for example, the little concert within the concert in Act 2, the evocative Intermezzo, and the pervasive odour of Crisantemi. Here and, indeed, throughout, the orchestra generally persuaded us of the case; they were willing to take risks for the sake of excitement, and in their more finely-wrought passages, some untidy edges were caught up nicely by Howard Williams's deft tailoring.

Despite Tuesday night's powerfully controlled ensembles, the solo voices here must be the prime movers, and their already strenuous task becomes even harder without the dramatic and physical regeneration and reinforcement of a staged performance. It was partly for that reason, surely, that Manon and Des Grieux excelled themselves only in the last act, despite its long drawn-out agony, as if they were at last able fully to fuse the musical and emotional experience.

Earlier Janice Cairns as Manon, fresh, pure-toned and a little too guileless vocally, had played the vulnerable young girl almost at the expense of that volatile woman, and her voice, like that of Lanceford Roberts as Des Grieux, lacked strength and sustaining power at the top. Neither had fully mastered the powerful ebb and flow of Puccini's line enough to glory in its turns of phrase or to approach climaxes with a vital *slancio*.

Tom McDonnell gave a powerful and idiomatic performance as a particularly virile, curl-lipped Geronte, Laurence Dale injected some sharp drama into his Edmondo and Simon Bainbridge's Lamplighter shot a clear ray of vocal light into the opening gloom of the penultimate act.

Buddy Rich
Ronnie Scott's

Richard Williams

At its most confined and stylized, big band jazz seems to answer a particular atavistic craving among its audience for order and system. In the music of Buddy Rich and his 15-piece orchestra, for example, there is no room whatsoever for the spontaneous gesture or the happy accident; the main attraction seems to be the sound and vision of the leader, a small but ferocious figure, almost literally whipping his cowed musicians through a series of exhausting calisthenics.

It might be argued that such exercises have more to do with the parade ground than with jazz. During Tuesday night's first set, Rich paid honest tribute to Count Basie and, by implication, Lester Young in an account of "One O'Clock Jump"; what place, however, could be found in Rich's ensemble for a wayward genius of Young's dimension?

Technically speaking, Rich is certainly one of the world's greatest drummers. His fills are elaborate but logical his punctuations brook no argument, and his solos contain stunning examples of the art of cross-sticking. What he lacks is any degree of emotional warmth, and although this seems to impress his fans, it scarcely works to the benefit of his soloists.

The best of them, the fine trumpeter Waymon Reed (whose *46th and 8th* was one of last year's most distinguished mainstream jazz albums), found himself positively trampled towards the end of one solo, when Rich began his tom-tom rudiments about eight bars from home; others, like Steve Marcus, the dependable tenor saxophonist, and Andy Fusco, an alto saxophonist whose small tone and sour intonation suggested that he was raised on a diet of early Jackie McLean records, were hardly given time to clear their throats before being engulfed by the ensemble. Instead Rich presented Zee, a group of three young women, including his daughter, who sang adequate supper-club versions of the Doobie Brothers' "What a Fool Believes" and Paul McCartney's "Got to Get You into My Life", the latter in the brittle arrangement devised by Earth, Wind and Fire.

It could be said that Rich's jokes, liberally sprinkled between the tunes, are more spontaneous than his music. While introducing the band, he berated the bass trombonist and the baritone saxophonist, who had jointly failed to arrive on the bandstand until the third number. "Leave them alone", shouted a compassionate ringsider. "Sure, I'll leave 'em alone", Rich spat. "In a cell." On second thoughts, perhaps that one was not a joke at all.

The dwindling violins (foreground) of the NCOS, George Hurst conducting

Arts agenda

Shortage of orchestral strings

A tip for aspiring musicians: if you want a secure professional career, take up the violin. There is a national shortage of good orchestral violinists, says Basil Tschaikov, director of the National Centre for Orchestral Studies, who is having great difficulty in attracting sufficient violinists for next year's course at the centre. They have received about two dozen applications for the three places on the flute; for the violin, they have actually received fewer applications than there are places (26) available.

Tschaikov says the flute is easily the most popular instrument—a situation only worsened by the impact of James Galway; there is also no shortage of cellists, clarinettists or trumpet players. The violin is a different matter: in both its first two years, the centre had been unable to fill all the violin places. He says the professional orchestras have long had difficulties in finding enough first-rate players; when he was chairman of the Philharmonic Orchestra they might audition 60 violinists in a year, and would be lucky to gain two or three good recruits.

He believes the trouble stems partly from the difficulty in learning the instrument, and also from teaching which emphasizes the solo and sonata repertoire, although few players could hope to make a living as soloists. Many players find less stimulation performing in a large violin section, where, despite playing more notes than others in the orchestra, they are probably paid the least. The shortage also means there is a lack of good players to teach the violin in schools: thus poor teaching can make matters worse.

Applications for the centre's 1981-82 course are due to close next week, but, for violinists, Tschaikov is keeping the list open "indefinitely".

■ What is virtually a small repertory company is being created by Triumph Theatre Productions for a tour which starts next week at Nottingham and continues round Britain until at least December, presenting four productions in all. A shorter tour was mounted by Triumph last year, with Arts Council support, but this year it has been greatly extended, partly to fill the gap left by the withdrawal of the council's grant for touring by the Old Vic Company.

The company will be led by Anthony Quayle, Bernard Bresslaw, John McCallum, Mel Martin and Googie Withers, and opens at the Nottingham Playhouse next Thursday with Galsworthy's *The Skin Game*, directed by Clifford Williams. Shaw's *The Devil's Disciple*, directed by Richard Digby Day, follows later in April. Both plays will be performed at the Malvern Festival and then the company travels to Richmond, where it will open with *The Cherry Orchard*. Later in the tour Quayle will direct Pinero's *Dandy Dick*.

■ Although some of Philip Larkin's poems have been made into songs, next month will see the premier of the first piece he has written specifically for setting to music: a choral work, with music by Anthony Hedges, which will be performed by the Hull Choral Union on April 11. Larkin, who is the librarian at the University of Hull, was commissioned to do the work to celebrate Hull's latest cause for civic pride: the opening of the Humber Bridge. He actually wrote the verses about five years ago, but the première has been delayed because the completion of the bridge fell far behind schedule.

It is not quite a paean of praise: six of the 10 verses are devoted to saying how nice it was before the bridge was built—"being alone and not being able to be got at by people from London" was how Larkin describes it. Moreover, he does not see himself using the bridge in the near future, although he likes looking at it.

The title of the piece, *Bridge for the Living*, grew out of the last line: "Always it is by bridges that we live"—a double meaning reflecting Larkin's concern about bridges built between human beings. There is, however, an unintentional third meaning: Larkin points out that *Bridge for the Living* sounds like the title of something about card games.

■ Among the works pouring from the pen of Peter Maxwell Davies, a little choral piece holds a special place: it marks the birth of a farmer's daughter, Lucy, in the tiny village of Rackwick on the island of Hoy, where he now lives. He says it was the first birth in the village for 32 years, a "tremendous event" for the island community. Gennadi Rozhdestvensky will conduct the première in June at the St Magnus Festival on Orkney.

Not to be missed: Claudio Abbado and the LSO celebrate the centenary of Mussorgsky's death with a Festival Hall concert next Tuesday, which includes a variety of rarities as well as the original version of *A Night on the Bare Mountain*, *Pictures from an Exhibition* and Nicolai Ghiaurov singing the *Songs and Dances of Death*.

Martin Huckerby

True comedy on a touchy subject

Having a Ball!
Coliseum, Oldham

Ned Chaillet

Regional theatres and their governing boards are notoriously timid. They always want audiences, but they seldom want the shows that will make audiences enthusiastic. The Oldham Coliseum is a rare exception, and perhaps one should credit the Lancashire spirit more than any individual, but Kenneth Alan Taylor's policy as the company's director has done wonders for serious theatre outside London.

Having a Ball! is an uproarious comedy about the ticklish subject (to say the least) of vasectomy. In the North they trust Alan Bleasdale to turn out good comedies with regularity. So far his work has largely been denied to the southern regions, except through television, but, since *Having a Ball!* is one of the plays scheduled for Radio 3's new play festival, all of England will soon be getting a taste of his masterful stage work.

He sets his story in a private clinic in Manchester. Four of the characters are shortly to be rolled into the operating room for that intimate masculine snip, and the surgeon is a woman. For lesser writers, that would be enough to be going on, but Mr Bleasdale fits in the dangers of nuclear war, the morality of abortion, and the decline of school bullies into glad-handing insurance salesmen.

Kenneth Alan Taylor's production is unrestrained in its exploitation of the comedy, but even with one ramping, naked and even obstreperous patient it finds a decorum totally suited to both the occasion and the theatre audience. It is David Ross, publically shaved and three times shy of the operation, who retains the frantic focus of the story, talking to himself, taunting the school bully from 16 years before and inspiring the drunken wife of another patient to a life-affirming declaration of desire.

It would be hard not to admire the serious qualities of the play. Apart from a nuclear holocaust, Mr Bleasdale fits in a spot of wife bashing, with its attendant apology or two, but his skill is to retain a high comic fascination while inserting the serious themes.

They are not inserted without pain, for the acting is skilful, and nowhere more accurately divided between laughter and tears than in Lesley E. Bennett's performance as a wife who drinks to cover her fear of war and government policy.

Hymns to life are few enough in plays that take themselves seriously. Mr Bleasdale's comedy is rich in affirmation, full of enthusiasm for life and perfectly judged for its audience. Mr Bleasdale is joining the consortium that is taking over the Liverpool Playhouse and has a play planned for London. It may be his year.

Meanwhile, Mr Taylor has proved that there is a larger audience for adult and intelligent comedy than most theatres will allow.

Before Water Lilies
BBC 1

Joan Bakewell

To all those who have ever gossiped their way round a private view, worried about the office during Beethoven's ninth or made holiday plans during a boring third act, *Play for Today* can be humbly dedicated. It is in fact a very humble little play masquerading under a good deal of cultural flannel.

Robert Marshall, the author, has set it in New York's Gallery of Modern Art in the room displaying Monet's *Water Lillies*. It is to this neutral territory that various pairs of talkative Americans come to play out various combinations of the blame game with each other.

Thus Mel and Tony, fellow executives, come in flight from the seafood luncheon of their company to call each other names and realize together that they are about to be scapegoated for the financial chicanery of their superiors. Monet? He counts with Tony as a familiar friend "like a college reunion". To Mel it's just "a big mess of blue".

Next and least successful as a pair come Angie and Marcia, collecting culture on their coach tour, and religious groupies for "the Mysterious Hope". The writing was weak enough and weak playing lowered it further. Monet just did not figure.

So things looked up when their kookie art student guide stayed behind to exercise her aggressions all over a charming gangler of an English law student. Andrew Boxer saw this part, and the play most truly, outlining an amiable caricature in what was really a sequence of revue double acts. Monet? It served to make her horny.

So where did it leave us? A handful of passing encounters merely, an unattractive gallery of modern stereotypes. Poor Monet was used to serve or discharge each man's quarrel with himself.

Steve Paxton
Riverside Studios

Noël Goodwin

In one sense "contact improvisation" is a species of nursery game writ large, the gloriously inconsequential tumbling and rolling of children over and under one another at play becoming translated into instinctive and disciplined estimates of scientific fulcrum, gravity and inertia by adults. This system of improvised movement is a speciality of Freelance, a collaborative group from the United States who are at Riverside Studios until Sunday.

The first to appear in a four-week season of "new dance" here, they comprise three men with beards and three women without, dressed basically in sport shirts and shorts and all barefoot. They include Steve Paxton, a former dancer with Merce Cunningham, and the initiator of contact improvisation as an "artsport" early in the last decade, at the end of which he was for two years a movement tutor at Dartington College.

To watch them in the improvisatory first part of the opening programme (actual presentations vary from night to night) is to become aware of a certain fluid bodily sculpture, not unlike the movement of coloured liquids under a lens and just as seemingly casual until you notice the responsive placing of a back or shoulder, or the forcing of balance to a limit and beyond, when the expert practitioner will then carry the momentum through to a new phrase.

All this is performed in expressionless silence. I wondered whether the addition of a sound dimension, other than the contact of limbs and bodies with the floor, might add to its character for the viewer, for I confess its interest as a spectator sport (or art) ran out in my case some time before its evident appeal to the participants, as if we were watching an exercise in vocabulary as a preliminary to composition.

Yet it has to be admitted that in the shorter works collectively titled *Missing In Action*, where each presumably had a set content or structure, the movement ranged from the self-indulgent to the banal with little help from accompanying sounds. An exception was Nancy Stark Smith's solo, *In Ketjak*, where her movement's visual rhythm counterpointed the sound of Balinese vocal chants.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

RSC to do La Ronde

The Royal Shakespeare Company is to present Arthur Schnitzler's play *La Ronde* in London next January, in a production by John Barton with a cast including Susan Fleetwood, Richard Pasco, Judy Buxton, Michael Pennington, Barbara Leigh-Hunt and Carol Royle.

Mike Leigh's new play *Goose-Pimples* will transfer from the Hampstead Theatre to the Garrick Theatre, opening in the West End on April 29

Football

England out of sorts and out of luck

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

England 1 Spain 2

England's latest concoction, on paper an agreeable blend of known successes and young hopefuls, failed to make a persuasive stand for the future at Wembley last night when Spain led after three minutes and merited their first victory over the English in eight matches.

For Spain, next year's hosts for the World Cup, this was a glorious evening in the rain. Their experimental team, twice beaten by England in the past year, defended sternly and they counter-attacked so effectively that the new English defence never looked at ease.

Although most of the match was spent in the Spanish half, England were more persistent than enterprising and on a difficult surface it must be said they enjoyed little luck. However, to make that a serious excuse would be to blanket a performance that cost them their first home defeat by foreign opposition since the Dutch won in 1977. It was also the first time a team chosen by Ron Greenwood had lost at home.

In isolation this was not a match in which victory had to dominate England's minds, but the tone of the performance, the balance between the new and attested talents, was important as preparation for the World Cup match against Romania only five weeks away. There was a need for some positive demonstration that the disappointments of last summer could be forgotten, with the welcoming back of Francis and Keegan, the appearance of the Ipswich defensive partnership of Osman and Butcher, and another chance for Hoddle to present his creative skills.

Butcher attempted to impose himself on the game from the first minute, loping through the Spanish half and into their penalty area looking for headers, but one would have urged caution since it was Spain's obvious intent to counter-attack and look for defenders out of position. Osman stayed back but committed three errors in his first three minutes and from the third Spain took him to task.

Osman's nervousness had twice cost England possession and then as Spain founded a move deep in their own half he and the other England defenders were flummoxed when the linesman allowed Zamora to race across the saturated turf and after Clemence had been drawn, the pass to Satrustegui allowed a comfortable goal.

If Spain needed an excuse to sit back and defend, the goal was a gift to their tactics and England had to endure rugged tackles. Victor clamped himself close to Keegan and Mariner was brought crashing by Maceda who had his name taken. Francis could not readjust to the international stage and England were again in serious difficulties. Satrustegui was inexplicably allowed a free header at the far post when Clemence and Neal misunderstood each other's intentions and a long, diagonal cross from Juanito allowed Gordillo to hit a shot that deflected on to the crossbar off Neal.

Hoddle had been quiet, slipping in and out of the game and yet his value as an exponent of the unexpected was clearly seen after 28 minutes. Mariner and Keegan had been hurling themselves at sturdy defenders without much success when Robson, playing with assurance, knocked the ball into the penalty area. As it was cleared Hoddle roamed in and from long-range struck a grand volley past the highly-regarded Spanish goalkeeper, Arconada.

England's defence still gave no cause for confidence, being square and slow. Fresh evidence came six minutes later when Juanito again defied a suspicion of offside and, entering the penalty area, was surprised to see that no one had closed in on Zamora who shot beyond Clemence. This was fine counter-attacking but made all the easier by England's poor defensive organization.

The Spanish defence, while hardly an example of composure, weathered England's persistent attacking although Arconada surely knew little about the shot he blocked when Robson hammered the ball at him from eight yards to waste a fine opportunity to draw level.

Now in permanent attack, England battled against this stubborn Spanish defence and the greasy pitch. Twice in quick succession the ball flew across in front of Arconada but also beyond the reach of Brooking and Mariner. Keegan's appetite was unremitting yet he too missed chances, even when his marker, Victor, was replaced by Montero.

Brooking came to take off Brooking and introduce Wilkins but Spain's occasional counter-attacks still sliced through midfield and exposed Neal on the right side at the back. Zamora's centre high above Clemence again left the defence confused and Satrustegui ought to have done more with his header than putting it wide.

In an attempt to avoid their embarrassment, England brought on Barnes but without effect and Spain clung on.

ENGLAND: R. Clemence (Liverpool); P. Neal (Liverpool), R. Osman (Ipswich Town), T. Butcher (Ipswich Town), K. Sansom (Arsenal), G. Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur), B. Robson (West Bromwich Albion), T. Brooking (West Ham United, sub, R. Wilkins, Manchester United), T. Francis (Nottingham Forest, sub, P. Barnes, West Bromwich Albion), D. Mariner (Ipswich Town), K. Keegan (Southampton).

SPAIN: Arconada (Real Sociedad); Camacho (Real Madrid), Tendillo (Valencia), Maceda (Sporting Gijon), Gordillo (Betis), Joaquin (Sporting Gijon), Victor (Zaragosa, sub, F. Montero, Saville), Zamora (Real Sociedad), Marcos (Atletico Madrid), Satrustegui (Real Sociedad), Juanito (Real Madrid, sub, D. Dani, Athletic Bilbao).

Referee: W. Eschweiler (West Germany).



Robson, one of England's better players, fails to score with this fierce shot.

Harris goal keeps Wales on course

Turkey 0 Wales 1

Ankara, March 25.—Carl Harris, the Leeds United winger, today put Wales a step nearer the World Cup finals in Spain next year. His 68th minute goal decided a scrappy game and kept Wales firmly on top of group three. They have taken maximum points from four games, without conceding a goal, and are followed by the Soviet Union, who have won their two opening games.

The winning goal, which came largely against the run of play, followed an appalling mistake by the Turkish defender Husnu, who had an otherwise faultless game. He headed down a cross from the right and the ball fell straight to Harris, whose left foot shot gave Senol, the goalkeeper, no chance.

In the closing minutes the Wales goalkeeper, Davies, denied the Turks an equalizer with a brave diving save at the feet of the menacing Tuncay. The ball rebounded to Halil, whose shot was also blocked by Davies.

The young and inexperienced Turks, beaten 4—0 by Wales in Cardiff last October, dominated the game and until the goal they looked to be on the way to a well-earned draw. Neat passing and sharp tackling kept the Welsh forwards, Walsh, James and Harris, in check, and at the other end the power of Tuncay and Halil's skills on the left frequently threatened the Welsh goal. Both sides found trouble coping with the heavy surface, which became increasingly slippery and cut up as rain fell in the last 20 minutes.

Davies, who was making his fortyfirst appearance for Wales, frequently caused panic in his own penalty area by punching out centres as he came under aerial attack from Tuncay and later from Sinan, who replaced Halil in the seventyfifth minute. Yorath, the Wales captain, did his best to steady his team, but they never found any rhythm and persisted in hitting high balls down the middle, which the forwards were unable to exploit.

The goal came after Mike England, the Wales manager, had brought on Charles for Walsh in an attempt to sharpen his attack. The goal knocked much of the heart out of the Turks, whose fighting display had won them control in midfield for most of the game. The goalmouth scramble in which Davies had to make his two fine saves was the only time the Turks seriously threatened to equalize.

TURKEY: Senol, Onur, Necati, Husnu, Sedat, Sedat II, Gungor, Volkan, Necdet, Tuncay, Halil (sub, Sinan).

WALES: D. Davies, J. Jones (Wrexham), P. Price (Luton Town), L. Phillips (Swansea City), K. Ratcliffe (Everton), B. Flynn (Leeds United), P. Nicholas (Arsenal), T. Yorath (Vancouver Whitecaps), C. Harris (Leeds United) (sub, D. Giles, Swansea City), I. Walsh (Crystal Palace) (sub, J. Charles, Swansea City), L. James (Swansea City).—Reuter

Place in finals not out of N. Ireland's reach

By Stuart Jones

Scotland 1 Northern Ireland 1

It was wet, it was windy and Scotland are far from home and dry in their quest to reach the World Cup final in Spain next year. In a match that appeared to finish early at Hampden Park last night, Northern Ireland gently prised open group six by taking the lead and holding on for a draw.

Scotland take over the leadership but have now dropped points in front of their own audience. It is as well for them that they have succeeded in beating the two outsiders, Sweden and Israel, on their travels abroad. Jock Stein's target of 11 points, though, still seems a long way away.

The Irish, in emerald-green shirts only a shade darker than the glistening turf, have quietly tiptoed into the picture. They showed last year, when they took the home international championship, that they are a competent side and never yield easily. With three home fixtures now to come, Spain is far from beyond their reach.

There was no doubting the public interest in the game. Hampden was like a fly in the middle of a spider's web of traffic jams and thousands missed the kick-off. They need not have worried. The opening was undistinguished until Archibald announced his first home international appearance with a flourish after ten minutes.

First he took McGrain's short ball on the edge of the area, spun round and hit a shot against the right-hand post. Jennings, winning his eighty-fourth cap, could do little about that and was even more stranded five minutes later. A glorious move linking Burns, Wark's head and Andy Gray found Archibald in space, but his shot was headed off the line by Chris Nicholl.

Scotland's blossom, though, wilted quickly. The Irish defence patched themselves up until the interval when Wark, the scorer of 31 goals this season, fired unmolested through a forest of legs, had sent him clear. The absence of Dalglish, Scotland's attacking pivot, was painfully evident.

Indeed, it was only Burns, revelling in his midfield role, and McGrain, the old warrior, who went forward with conviction. Wark looked out of pace wide on the right and Gemill's evening was adequately summed up when, all alone, he trod on the ball and fell over. Souness was sorely missed.

Northern Ireland looked dangerous even before the opening goal arrived after 70 minutes. Burns, not the speediest of men, clumsily felled Hamilton and McIlroy, leading his side superbly, took what amounted to a corner and Hamilton, unmarked, nodded home past Rough. It was the first goal that Scotland had conceded in the World Cup and it reduced the Hampden roar to a soft whimper of whistles.

Within five minutes, the Scots were level. After their desperate rush of fervour, it was surprisingly uncomposed but then the scorer, Wark, has nerves of steel in the penalty area. He stole in on the right and coolly beat Jennings to earn Scotland their point.

SCOTLAND: A. Rough (Partick Thistle); D. McGrain (Celtic), F. Gray (Nottingham Forest), A. Hansen (Liverpool), A. Burns (Nottingham Forest), J. Wark (Ipswich Town), A. Gray (Wolverhampton Wanderers), S. Archibald (Tottenham Hotspur), J. Robertson (Nottingham Forest).

NORTHERN IRELAND: P. Jennings (Arsenal); J. Nicholl (Manchester United), C. Nicholl (Southampton), J. O'Neill (Leicester City), S. Nelson (Arsenal), D. McCreery (Tulsa Roughnecks), S. McIlroy (Manchester United), J. McClelland (Mansfield Town), T. Cochrane (Middlesbrough), G. Armstrong (Watford), W. Hamilton (Burnley, sub, D. Spence, Southend United).

Referee: K. Scheurell (East Germany).

Athletics

Profits from future races to help inner city areas

By Paul Harrison

With a budget of around £100,000, the best hope for the inaugural London Marathon, sponsored by Gillette, on Sunday, is to break even. A small profit would be a bonus this year, but if the event becomes established the main beneficiaries in the future could be the Londoners whose support the race needs. The idea is that any future profits should be given to London boroughs to provide more leisure facilities, particularly in deprived inner city areas.

Christopher Brasher, the race director, supports Prince Philip in a recently declared view that perhaps there are enough large and well-equipped sports centres and that what is needed now in the inner cities are simple "sports barns" that can be put to multiple use. "I think maybe that is the sort of thing we can help with", Brasher said.

A controlling company, London Marathon Limited, has been set up and any profits will be given to the Greater London Council, to be allocated to the London boroughs. The six boroughs directly involved in the race—Greenwich, Lewisham, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, City of London and Westminster—will have a prior claim.

Brasher points out that the first race has had to bear initial costs which will not be incurred next year, when there will also have been 12 months in which to plan the race. There are more than items on the budget, from the provision of 2,000 foil blankets to wrap around runners in distress at a cost of just under £2,000, £1,400 for a gantry at the finish. Electricity supply to the finish will cost several thousand pounds and there are 75 portable lavatories and a 100ft long urinal at the start to be paid for.

The money comes from two main sources: the runners themselves and sponsorship. The 7,000 or so participants have paid entry fees of £3 if British and $15 if foreign. Nearly 22,000 tried to enter, and the disappointed at least got their money back. That source has raised around £25,000 and Gillette, the main sponsors, have put in £50,000.

Most of the shortfall is expected to be made up by subsidiary sponsors and royalties from licences on the selling of a range of commemorative products, from T-shirts to mugs. There will also be income from a trade exhibition at the Strand Palace Hotel, the marathon operations centre, where stands are being hired out.

Costs have been cut to meet circumstances. If it rains on Sunday, for example, the athletes in Greenwich Park will get wet because there was no room in the budget for large marquees to shelter them. Apart from out of pocket expenses, the organizers are taking nothing for their three or four months' work, although they believe it will be impossible to continue in this way. "It has been virtually a full-time job", Brasher said.

Goals by Martin and Statham fail to avert defeat

Spain B 3 England B 2

Granada, March 25.—Late goals from two defenders, Derek Statham and Alvin Martin, failed to save England from defeat in the B international here today.

Spain, urged on by a capacity crowd of 18,000, showed speed and enterprise from the start and after 20 minutes Alonso beat the unsighted Corrigan with a speculative long shot. Eight minutes before the interval Rubio made it 2-0 from the penalty spot after Saura had been brought down and Santillana headed in a third three minutes into the second half after good work by his Real Madrid club colleague, Hernandez.

It was only after the third goal that England got in the game. First a superb solo effort from Statham the West Bromwich Albion full back, midway through the second half cut the arrears and 10 minutes later Martin, the West Ham United defender, punished slipshod defensive work. Sunderland missed two late chances, but Spain deserved their narrow victory.

SPAIN: Urruti, Gerardo, Jimenez, Alvarez, Cundi, Diego, Alonso, Saura, Moran, Santillana, Rubio.

ENGLAND: J. Corrigan (Manchester City), B. Batson, D. Statham (West Bromwich Albion), S. Williams (Southampton), A. Martin (West Ham United), S. Elliott (Sunderland), S. Mackenzie, K. Reeves (Manchester City), A. Morley (Aston Villa), A. Sunderland, G. Rix (Arsenal).

WORLD CUP: Asian group two: Bahrain 0, Iraq 2.
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Yugoslavia 2, Bulgaria 1.
UEFA JUNIOR TOURNAMENT: Italy 3, Malta 0; Cyprus 1, Greece 3.

Eire bemoan late goal and a controversial decision

Belgium 1 Rep Ireland 0

Brussels, March 25.—An eighty-sixth minute goal from Jan Ceulemans shattered the Republic of Ireland's World Cup dreams here tonight. The Irish defended bravely and had a goal disallowed seconds before half time. Then they saw their hard work destroyed with a valuable qualifying point just minutes away.

The scoreline does not tell of the industry of the Irish side that lacked their two world class defenders O'Leary and Lawrenson. Their replacements Moran and Martin did a thorough job and it was heartbreaking for them to see Ceulemans finally beat them in the air to score the winning goal.

Belgium's breakthrough came when they won a free kick on the edge of the Irish area. Van der Eycken slammed a shot against the bar and Ceulemans nodded in the rebound. It was a blow made all the worse because Ireland had what seemed a perfectly good goal disallowed by the Portuguese referee Raul Nazarre. Mr Nazarre had his back to the play and was in fact obstructing the Belgian goalkeeper Preud'Homme as Stapleton swept home Brady's quick free kick.

Irish protests were long and loud, continuing well after the half-time whistle, until their manager, Eoin Hand, ordered them into the dressing room. The goalless first half had been a moral victory for the Irish.

After the interval the Belgians had torrential rain in their faces from a fierce storm but they were still quick to break upfield. In the sixtieth minute Gerets crossed for Cuelemans to connect powerfully but McDonagh scrambled the ball away, and six minutes from time McDonagh somehow changed direction in mid-air to parry a fierce shot from Van der Bergh. The Irish replaced Stapleton with Walsh 18 minutes from the end but Ceulemans finally found a way past McDonagh and Ireland must now beat the Netherlands and France next season if they are to qualify for the 1982 finals in Spain.

BELGIUM: Preud'Homme (Standard), Gerets (Standard), L. Millecamps (Waregem), Meeuws (Club Brugge), Renquin (Standard), Mommens (Lokeren), Van de Eycken (Club Brugge), Cluytens (Beveren), Vandebergh (Lierse), Coeck (Anderlecht), Ceulemans (Club Brugges).

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: J. McDonagh (Everton), D. Langan (Birmingham), C. Hughton (Tottenham), M. Martin (Newcastle), K. Moran, Manchester United), L. Brady (Juventus), G. Daly (Coventry), F. Stapleton (Arsenal), sub, M. Walsh (Porto), S. Heighway (Liverpool), A. Grealish (Luton), M. Robinson (Brighton).

Muhren scores winner

A well-taken goal from a free kick by Arnold Muhren, who plays for Ipswich Town, helped the Netherlands to a 1—0 win over France in a European group two qualifying match at Rotterdam yesterday. The Netherlands had to win to retain any hope of qualifying for the World Cup finals.

League have no objections to QPR pitch plan

The Football League are to raise no objections to Queen's Park Rangers' £350,000 scheme to lay an artificial pitch at Loftus Road. In a circular letter to clubs the League say: "In the interest of progress and unless there are very good reasons for objections, the management committee would not wish to raise unnecessary obstacles. Queen's Park Rangers are willing to be used as an experiment for league football on the new surface, which can be inspected now upon notice being given to the club."

The League say most of the problems caused by the use of artificial pitches appear to have been overcome by the new *all-weather* "Omniturf" surface, which was demonstrated at the All England Lawn Tennis Club at Wimbledon on Monday. Jim Gregory, the Rangers chairman, said after the demonstration that his club would go ahead with laying an "Omniturf" pitch at Loftus Road at the end of the current season.

The League's letter, which asks for other club's views on Rangers' plan, says: "As this matter is not specifically covered under existing regulations, it is not within the management committee's power to take a binding decision, either in favour of or against the proposal."

Ron Phillips, the Rangers secretary, said: "This is a very farsighted attitude by the League. We are certain this surface can bring in a lot of income to clubs that install it.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Kidderminster v Bridgend; Redditch v Bedworth. Southern division: Hastings v Ashford.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Hertford v Maidenhead.
FA TROPHY: Fourth round replay: Aylesbury v Sutton.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Third round, second replay: Carshalton v Cheshunt.
HERTFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Semi-final round: Watford v Hitchin.
SURREY SENIOR CUP: Semi-final replay: Met Police v Woking.
RUGBY UNION: National Schools Sevens tournament (at Rosslyn Park). Tour match: High Wycombe v Old Whites Atlanta.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Warrington v Wokington Town.

BADMINTON: John Player All-England Championships (at Wembley).

GOLF: Sunningdale Foursomes.

SNOOKER: Embassy World Professional Championship: qualifying sections (at Bristol and Stockport); English Amateur Championship: North (at Blackpool); South (at Balham).

HOCKEY: Women's tournament: Inter-Services (at RAF Brize Norton).

Rugby Union

LISBON: Portugal Juniors 32, Portadown College (Ireland) 19.

Yesterday's results

World Cup

Group Two

Belgium (0) 1 Eire (0) 0
Ceulemans 42,000
Netherlands (0) 1 France (0) 0
Muhren 60,000

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	5	4	1	0	8	3	9
Eire	5	3	1	2	12	7	7
France	3	2	0	1	7	1	4
Netherlands	4	2	0	2	5	3	4
Cyprus	6	0	0	6	4	24	0

Group Three

Turkey (0) 0 Wales (0) 1
35,000 Harris

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	4	4	0	0	10	0	8
USSR	2	2	0	0	7	1	4
Czechoslovakia	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Iceland	3	1	0	2	3	12	2
Turkey	4	0	0	4	1	10	0

Group Six

Scotland (0) 1 N. Ireland (0) 1
Wark Hamilton 70,000

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	4	2	2	0	3	1	6
Portugal	3	2	1	0	4	0	5
N. Ireland	4	1	2	1	1	2	4
Israel	3	0	2	2	1	3	3
Sweden	4	0	2	2	1	5	2

International match

England (1) 1 Spain (2) 2
Hoddle Satrustegui
71,840 Zamora

B International

Spain (2) 3 England (0) 2
Alonso Statham, Martin
Rubio (pen) 18,000
Santillana

Third Division

Blackpool (0) 0 Charlton (1) 2
4,236 Smith
Robinson

WELSH CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Hereford United 2, Newport County 1.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bath City United 2, Northwich Victoria 2; Yeovil Town 1, Wealdstone 0. Cup semi-final, first leg: Kettering Town 5, Barrow 1 (Kettering win 7-1 on aggregate).
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Wellingborough 3, Minehead 0.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Oswestry 0, Goole 1.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgware v Basildon—postponed.

Rugby Union

MOBBS MEMORIAL MATCH: East Midlands 15, Barbarians 20.
CLUB MATCHES: Abertillery 16, South Wales Police 0; Bristol 7, Pontypool 7; Coventry 9, Bedford 9; Pontypridd 17, Llanelli 20.
SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL: 15 group: England 10, Wales 14.
COUNTY MATCH: Essex 33, Cambridge U; Kent U-21 8, Buckinghamshire U-21 3.
OTHER MATCHES: British Police 27, British Colleges 25; Combined London Old Boys 19, Surrey County Clubs 7; Middlesex County Clubs 33, Hertfordshire County Clubs 3; Warlingham 19, Oregon (US) 0.

Rugby League

Castleford 18, Leigh 13; Hull Kingston Leeds 21.

Hockey

WOMEN'S INTER-SERVICES TOURNAMENT: WRNS 5, WRAC 0.

For the record

Golf

SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP (sponsored by Aer Lingus): Qualifying rounds (at Wilpshire): 1, Runshaw College, Leyland 231; 2, Blackpool Collegiate 237; 3, Winstanley College, Wigan, 242. (At John O'Gaunt): 1, Denbigh 255; 2, Stowe 255; 3, Westfield 262. (At Came Down): 1, Hardye's 250; 2, Poole GS 264; 3, Canford 265. (At Leicester): 1, Dawn Court CS, Radcliffe-on-Trent, 232; 2, Uppingham 239; 3, Stamford 240.

Cycling

ESSAOUIRA: Tour of Morocco (amateur), 50km time trial, leading placings: 1, Sweden 1hr 05min 25sec (average speed 45.90 kph); 2, Poland 1-06:35; 3, Czechoslovakia 1-06:40; 4, Bulgaria 1-07:22; 5, Belgium 1-08:32; 6, France 1-09:21; 11, Britain 1-12:08.

Hockey

KARACHI: Men's international: Pakistan 7, Zimbabwe 0.

Tennis

MAPA (California): First round (US unless stated): R. Tanner beat P. Marten (WG), 7—6, 6—1; J. Lloyd (GB) beat A. Giammalva, 3—6, 6—1, 6—1; S. Giammalva beat R. Case (Australia), 7—5, 6—1; T. Moor beat C. Dibley (Australia), 6—4, 6—4; R. Krishnan (India) beat W. Martin, 6—2, 6—1.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Washington Capitals 5, Philadelphia Flyers 2; Los Angeles Kings 4, Minnesota North Stars 3; New York Islanders 5, St Louis Blues 3; Colorado Rockies 7, Detroit Red Wings 4.
ORTISEI (Italy): World championships: Group B: Yugoslavia 3, Romania 2; Poland 11, Japan 2; Switzerland 2, East Germany 1; Italy 6, Norway 1.

Bowls

NEWCASTLE (Australia): Invitation Pairs tournament: Fifth round: R. Dobbins and D. Ross beat C. Dawson and L. Holloway 2?—9 and J. Bell and M. Hughes (England), 1?—17.

Skiing

BOROVETZ: World Cup: Slalom: 1, A. Zhirov (USSR), 1 52.34sec; 2, S. Mahre (US), 1 52.[illegible]; 3, P. Mahre (US), 1 53.17; 4, Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 1 53.35; I. Stenmark (Sweden), 1 54.21; 6, Fjaellberg (Sweden), 1 57.35. Overall standings: 1, Stenmark, 260pts; 2, Mahre, 255; 3, Zhirov, 190; 4, Mahre, 155; 5, P. Frommelt (Switzerland), 1[illegible]; 6, Krizaj (Yugoslavia), 137. Overall slalom standings: 1, Stenmark, 120; 2, P. Mahre, 87; 3, Krizaj, [illegible]; 4, S. Mahre, 80; 5, P. Frommelt (Liechtenstein), 77; 6, Zhirov, 70.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP: Final standings: Slalom: 1, E. Hess (Switzerland), 126pts; 2, C. Cooper (US), [illegible]; P. Pelen (France), 81; 4, Zini (Italy), 51; 5, P. Serrat (France), [illegible]; 6, H. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), [illegible]; 7, T. McKinney (US), 52; 8, Macchi (Italy), 51; 9, N. Patrakeeva (USSR), 46; 10, C. Giordani (Italy), 43. Giant slalom: 1, McKinney, 1[illegible]; 2, M. T. Nadig (Switzerland), [illegible]; 3, Hess, Wenzel, I. Epple (WG), [illegible]; 6, M. Epple, [illegible]. Overall: Nadig, [illegible]; 2, Hess, 231; 3, Wenzel, 241; 4, Cooper, 19[illegible]; 5, I. Epple, 1[illegible].

Rugby Union

Mills try gives Barbarians elbow-room

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

East Midlands 15 Barbarians 20

The 60th anniversary of the Edgar Mobbs memorial match, which is sponsored these days by Carlsberg, did not produce one of the more distinguished contests at Franklin's Gardens yesterday. However, there was plenty of entertainment for the crowd in the second half as East Midlands, by some way the more committed of the two sides, fought back with spirit after falling 14 points adrift. The final margin was two goals and two tries to two goals and a penalty goal.

By the final phase the Midlands forwards, putting early difficulties at the scrummage behind them, were producing plenty of good ball from every source and exposing the limitations of the opposing front five at close quarters. At one point, indeed, the result might have gone either way.

That stage was reached when Wilkinson, Wilson, Fletcher, Whitehouse and Ashton developed a concerted drive through the middle and Ebsworth floated out a long pass for Mackaness to put McGuckian over on the left. This splendid try, scored just after the Barbarians' captain, O'Driscoll, had departed with a back strain, was converted by Ebsworth and left East Midlands only five points behind at 9—14. Minutes later Wilson capped another strong attack by crossing the Barbarians' line but was denied a try because of a knock-on.

It must have seemed like rough justice to the home team when Swift, looping inside Field, sparked off an immediate Barbarian response. Their hooker, Mills, plunged over for a try at the end of a pass from Stephens, his loose head prop, that a local sage stationed by the goal line—and possibly biased—held to be three feet out of true.

The only thing that mattered was the approval of a good referee on the spot and when Dodge had made a simple conversion the Barbarians had some elbow room. This was as well, there still being time when the full-back, Wilson, went off with a cut knee, for Barker to weave through a porous defence and for the flanker, Wilson, to score a try, at the end of a pass from Whitehouse. Ebsworth converted.

It took the Barbarians some while to develop any sort of concerted rhythm but when they did they produced a nigh-perfect example of a score from a set piece. This involved a miss pass by Davies behind a scrummage, the entry of Wilson into his line and an accurate distribution overall before Swift scampered over on the left.

It was a poor first half in most other respects, though Carleton once purred outside the opposing full-back and, on another occasion, lit the proceedings with a relaxed stabbing run through the midfield.

The Irishman, Carr, had a fine game on a Barbarian flank and he it was who charged down a kick by Ebsworth to launch a move supported by O'Driscoll and Field which had Davies putting over a pinpoint cross kick for Dodge to score under the post. Dodge converted this try and made the next with a strong burst supported by both props, which ended with a score by Evans. Just after that Ebsworth got East Midlands moving with a penalty goal.

EAST MIDLANDS (Northampton unless stated): C. Mackaness; K. Parker, W. Barker (Bedford), T. Burwell (Leicester), P. McGuckian; M. Ebsworth, G. Fletcher (Bedford); S. Ashton (Bedford), J. A. G. Raphael (captain), N. Fox, S. Roche (Metropolitan Police), C. Folwell, C. Wilson, R. M. Wilkinson (Bedford), A. Whitehouse.

BARBARIANS: R. Wilson (London Scottish and Scotland) (rep, G. Evans, Maesteg and Wales); J. Carleton (Orrell and England), P. W. Dodge (Leicester and England), G. Evans (Newport and Wales), A. H. Swift (Swansea); G. H. Davies (Cambridge University and England), I. Peck (Rosslyn Park); I. Stephens (Bridgend and Wales), S. G. F. Mills (Gloucester), G. A. F. Sargent (Gloucester and England), R. J. Field (Moseley), T. J. Smith (Gala), J. B. O'Driscoll (London Irish and Ireland, captain) (rep, G. Phillips, Bedford), E. T. Butler (Pontypool and Wales), N. J. Carr (Queen's University Belfast).

Referee: B. Head-Rapson (Notts, Lincs and Derby).

Sevenoaks triumph in schools' sevens

By Peter Marson

Sevenoaks 28 Cwmtawe 0

Sevenoaks, who had lost the first of their group matches against Plymouth on Tuesday, pushed on to win a place in the final of the open competition and they beat Cwmtawe in a one-sided match by four goals and a try to nil. It had been an unusual last act wherein the favourites had failed, and though the rain which now bucketed down was familiar it was dark enough to make it the first floodlit final.

With Sevenoaks denying Cwmtawe possession, Jon Keating, Rodger (2) and Piggott (2) scored tries and out of the mud Thresher did well to land four conversions.

Earlier Cowley had barely had time to digest their breakfast and wipe the sleep from their eyes before Mount St Mary's, with a lead of 10 points put them on the rack. Cowley showed their mettle as slowly they crept back into the match and eventually triumphed by 18—10. But a chink in their armour had appeared already—an inability to kick their goals.

Apparently they had no substitute for Joyce, who is their goalkicker but who was on duty with England's 16 group side against Wales at Twickenham. Cowley's deficiency was to plague them again and it was only with the last breath that they survived against De La Salle and Hipperholme.

In the top half of the draw Ampleforth played well to win their matches against Loughborough and King Henry VIII, but fell heavily in the quarter-final round against Llandovery. Merchant Taylors' performed well against Llandovery, but the best match in the sixth round was that between Belmont Abbey, from Hereford, and Wirral, from Merseyside. The lead changed hands five times before Belmont scored the last of six tries.

The first of the semi-finals turned the form book upside down when Llandovery, whose brilliance throughout had made them favourites for a place in the final, fell in extra time to Sevenoaks. Daniel Keating, the Sevenoaks captain, said that his side had "gone out to hustle and bustle Llandovery" and in scoring two goals Sevenoaks had achieved as much before their centre, Thresher, broke to score the winning try in extra time.

In the second semi-final the demise of Cowley, who had seemed to have the pedigree of finalists, was less surprising, though they fought back splendidly against Cwmtawe who scored the try which made the difference.

SEVENOAKS: J. Piggott, S. Thresher, B. Rodger, N. Hodges, J. Keating, K. Wicnello, D. Keating (capt).
CWMTAWE: A. Cavell, T. Davies, R. Walters, A. Jones, C. Hamer (capt), M. Williams, M. Hapgood.
Referee: D. Herriott (London).

GROUP D: St Joseph's, Blackheath 4, Hampton GS 8, Tasker Milward 0, Warwick 8.
GROUP E: Brockley 0, Verulam 0; Colchester 9, Llandovery 8.
GROUP F: St Mary's, Liverpool 18, Portsmouth GS 0; Westcliff 4, Queen Elizabeth, Barnet 20.
GROUP G: Cheshunt 0, St Joseph's, Ipswich 12; Manchester GS 0, John Fisher 10.
GROUP H: Bishop Wand 6, Blackpool GS 22; Sevenoaks 20, Aylesbury GS 4.
GROUP I: St Edmund's, Ware, 6, Wrekin 28; Methodist College 10, London Oratory 0.
GROUP J: Cwmtawe 18, RGS Guildford 9; King's, Macclesfield 14, Whitehaven GS 16.
GROUP K: St Bede's 14, City of London Freeman 15; Queen's, Taunton 26, Bassaleg 6.
GROUP L: Belmont Abbey 9, Woolverstone 4; Gunnersbury GS 0, Regent House 22.
GROUP M: Doncaster GS 16, Nottingham HS 4; Stonyhurst 0, Reigate GS 6.
GROUP N: Goff's 12, Rossall 12; Broxbourne 0, St Benedict's 26.
GROUP O: St Marylebone GS 10, St Edward's Liverpool 34; Magnus GS 8, St George's, Harpenden 12.
GROUP P: Royal Belfast 8, Birkenhead 12; Tulse Hill 6, William Ellis 24; Birkenhead 4, William Ellis 24; Hipperholme 17, Royal Belfast 10.
GROUP Q: Eltham 20, King William's 0; Newcastle-under-Lyme 6, De La Salle 18; King William's 0, De La Salle 10; Hymer's 16, Eltham 16.
GROUP R: Wandsworth 4, Cowley 24; Normanton 6, Mount St Mary's 12; Cowley 18, Mount St Mary's 10; King Edward VI 26, Wandsworth 6.
PLAY-OFF ROUND: Loughborough GS 0, Ampleforth 22; De La Salle 0, Cowley 10.
SIXTH ROUND: Ampleforth 18, King Henry VIII 4; Merchant Taylors', Crosby 0, Llandovery 12; St Joseph's, Ipswich 12, St Mary's, Liverpool 0; Sevenoaks 24, Wrekin 0; Cwmtawe 14, Queen's, Taunton 0; Belmont Abbey 20, Wirral 14; St Benedict's 12, St Edward's, Liverpool 6; Cowley 14, Hipperholme 9.
QUARTER-FINAL ROUND: Llandovery 28, Ampleforth 0; Sevenoaks 15, St Joseph's 4; Cwmtawe 10, Belmont Abbey 6; Cowley 12, St Benedict's 10.
SEMI-FINAL ROUND: Sevenoaks 16, Llandovery 12 (after extra time); Cwmtawe 14, Cowley 10.
FINAL: Sevenoaks 28, Cwmtawe 0.

Police run out of puff but survive

By Steve Elliott

B. Police 27 B. Colleges 25

It would be hard to imagine a more keenly contested or enjoyable match than that between the British Police and British Colleges yesterday. Police won by three goals, two penalty goals and a dropped goal, to a goal, a try, a dropped goal and four penalties.

Although the constructive rugby came from Police initially, it was the Colleges' tall centre Steele who earned them the lead with two calmly taken penalties before a beautiful jinking run by Osborne ended in his try, which Halford converted to level the scores. Bernard went off with a nastily cut cheek after 30 minutes, his place being taken on the flank for Colleges by Collinson of St John's. Immediately the mercurial Osborne was at his tricks again, breaking incisively and putting Parsons in for a try after he had broken three tackles. Halford converted but Steele's third

A dropped goal by Latter for the Police, then a penalty by Steele, followed by a magnificent team try scored by Steele, kept the Colleges' hopes alive. Police pressure paid off, however, and they drew ahead with a goal and two penalties before the Colleges responded again with a dropped goal and a try. But the conversion which would have levelled the scores went astray.



England's Halpin evades the clutches of Rees on the way to the try-line.

English boys flatter only to deceive

By David Hands

England 10 Wales 14

Traditional Welsh virtues at half back and better organization at forward brought Wales a deserved win in the 16 group schools international at Twickenham yesterday. It was England's first defeat at this level since 1978 and their first against Wales since 1975, when they lost in Cardiff.

Playing down the wings of a stiff breeze in the first half, the Welsh boys established an 11—4 lead and finished winners by two tries and two penalty goals to a try and two penalties. Despite their capacity for giving away penalties, and Joyce's capacity for kicking them, the Welsh exerted much more control in the tight and loose scrums.

The platform from which David Wright and Jones were able to dictate much of the course of the game was thus considerably better than that given the English halves. For England it was a return to reality after their 12-try thrashing of the Netherlands on Sunday.

England flattered to deceive in the opening 10 minutes. They dominated possession, all the backs had their chance to handle, and Halpin scored a splendid try after his forwards had churned towards the Welsh posts before releasing the ball. Speedy passing gave Halpin space to veer outside the cover and cross in the corner;

England's edge at the lineout, mainly through Dryden and Clark, continued throughout the match but was offset by the superiority of the Welsh scrummage and their work with the loose ball. In this respect it is worth noting the comparative absence of the pile-up. The rucking of the Welsh boys was particularly good, their back row frequently driving from lineouts and laying back the ball in a manner which even a New Zealander might have recognized. Bevan and Dibble played their part in all of this.

Jones, after a bad miss from in front of the posts, began the Welsh revival with a penalty. England's Wright, Martin, came away from a lineout, but the ball fell right for Wales and their Wright, David, with the support of his forwards, crossed in the corner. A crushing tackle by Joyce prevented another Welsh try as the rain began to fall, but Harriman, the hooker, was over again in the corner on the end of a rolling maul.

Joyce, the Cowley centre with the big boot, landed two penalties from 45 metres in the second half to bring England to within a point; but Jones kicked his second penalty and though England forced two lineouts on the Welsh line in the dying minutes, Dibble won them both. The noise from the packed West lower stand, which had echoed round the ground like stereophonic sound at the start, became distinctly muted.

ENGLAND SCHOOLS: C. M. Mann (St Brendan's College, Bristol); P. J. Halpin (St Joseph's College, Widnes), K. G. Sims (West Park, St Helens), W. G. Joyce (Cowley HS, St Helens), R. B. S. Crawford (Wellington College, Crowthorne); D. M. Fletcher (Liverpool College), N. P. Beytell (Bexley and Erith Technical School); R. G. Williams (Humphry Davy, Penzance), D. J. G. Bentley (Montgomery of Alamein, Winchester), P. Kennedy (Ryton CS), A. M. Powell (Burleigh College, Loughborough), W. J. Dryden (St Cuthbert's, Newcastle), M. A. Denton (Chislehurst and Sidcup GS), J. P. Clark (Cotham GS, Bristol, captain), M. S. Wright (Leeds CS).

WELSH SCHOOLS: R. Harris (Amman Valley CS); R. G. McWilliams (Amman Valley CS), F. Selarn (Greffyd Jones, St Clears), A. Price (Lower Rhondda CS), P. A. Rees (Amman Valley CS); S. Jones (Cwmtawe CS), D. J. Wright (Bedwas, captain); H. Bevan (Ynysawdre CS), I. Harriman (Tredegar CS), A. H. Walters (Bedwas), A. Dibble (Llantarnam CS), R. J. Aninnay (Crossyceiliog CS), G. George (Llisworry CS), R. Phillips (St David's), A. B. Coughlin (Llantarnam CS).

Pontypool drive through mud to narrow victory

By Alan Gibson

Bristol 7 Pontypool

A sodden pitch and a drizzly evening: much as usual—I thought resignedly—and a pity with two good running sides to play. Bristol have had the better of matches between the clubs over many years, but Pontypool have been having the better season, especially latterly. A somewhat embittered Bristol supporter told me that some of their performances recently had been "like Bishopston B on New Year Day".

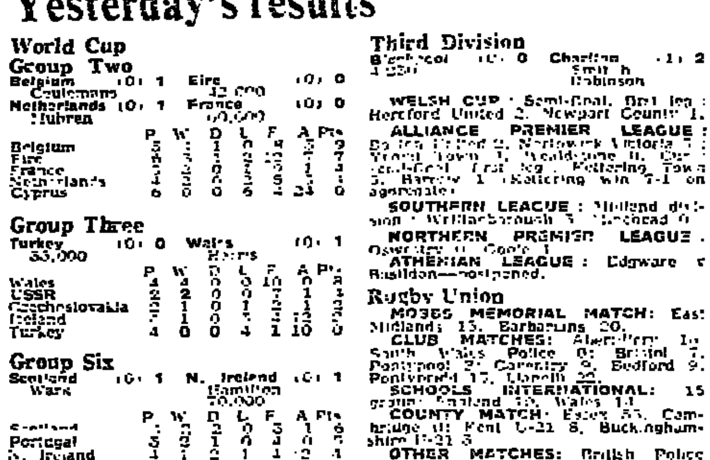
Pontypool, against the wind (not that there was all that much of it), began with a vigorous attack and kept it up for a quarter of an hour, after which their scrum half, Canon, scored a smart try. Bristol bucked up for a bit and Stiff kicked a penalty goal, but Pontypool were soon at them again, and a passing movement, remarkably skilful in the conditions, led to another try by Hussey on the left.

There had been a brawl or two just before and the atmosphere at the time was not happy, but I am pleased record that that Bristol crowd responded to this admirable try with a hearty cheer. Hussey would have scored again before half time, but the last pass of another deft move was just forward.

In the second half Polledri, who had taken a knock earlier, was replaced by Tomlin, who played well. Bristol began it as confidently as Pontypool had done the first, and Caven scored an excellent try on the left. I could discern no reason for this sudden change of pattern. Clearly neither could Pontypool, because they resumed occupation of the Bristol half for nearly all the rest of the match. Bristol's only other real chance of scoring was when Stiff narrowly missed with a penalty, whereas Pontypool missed three, as well as a drop at goal by Crabtree which only an unexpected gust of wind flicked away. Pontypool also came, twice, within a few feet of another try.

So there was still only a point in it at the end, the difference between two tries, and a try and a penalty goal. And the match maintained its interest, though it got muddier and muddier, because of the narrow margin. But it would have been a sham if some freak occurrence, never impossible in the slipperiness, had deprived Pontypool of their win.

BRISTOL: P. Cue; A. Morley (capt), J. Watson, A. Rees, M. Caven; S. Wright, R. Harding; M. Fry, K. Tasker, A. Sheppard, P. Stiff, N. Lear, P. Polledri (rep, J. Tomlin), R. Hesford, M. Rafter.
PONTYPOOL: P. Lewis; G. Davies, L. Jones, P. Bligh, D. Hussey; S. Crabtree, S. Canon; R. Windsor, Jones, G. Price, J. Perkins, M. Jones, C. Huish, T. Cobner, J. Squire (capt).
Referee: L. Prideaux (International Panel).



Cricket

England likely to bring in Athey and Downton for fourth Test

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Antigua, March 25

The England party arrived here this afternoon and found the island en fete—for yesterday's wedding between Vivian Richards and his "childhood sweetheart" and Friday's fourth Test match, which will be Antigua's first. It is as though the Prince of Wales were to be married on the Isle of Wight and a Test match played there in the same week.

The England team for Friday will show a change or two, almost certainly, from the one that lost the third Test in Barbados. Athey, for one thing, is likely to be at No 3, where Rose batted in the first Test and Gatting in the third. For another, Downton looks set to return as wicketkeeper.

Two other places are in contention, one between Jackman, Stevenson and Old, the other between Butcher, Gatting and Miller. In his first Test match in Barbados, Jackman took five wickets and was the most accurate of the England bowlers; he is, however, having slight muscular trouble. Old's experience, unlike his fitness record or his batting against fast bowling, is in his favour, while Stevenson, though punished in the second innings against Leeward Islands, took five wickets in the first. The chances are that Jackman, so long as he is fit, will hold his place having done nothing to lose it.

For coming to the rescue in Montserrat yesterday England owe a debt to Butcher. Unlike poor Gatting, whose last six innings have brought him only 39 runs, Butcher now has some current form to recommend him; so has Miller, who made 91 not out and 14 against the Leewards and has a sounder batting method than Butcher. There is also Miller's bowling to consider.

Gatting should have such a future as an England batsman that it would be a pity to drop him. No doubt, too, he was as unlucky to be given out yesterday, before he had scored, as Butcher was lucky to be given not out when he was six. Batting, however, has so much to do with confidence and confidence with making runs that it might this time be kinder to Gatting to play Butcher or Miller. Whoever it is would probably settle now for 30 in each innings of the Test match: so far in four Test innings only Gooch, Boycott and Gower have managed to get that far.

The few days just spent in Montserrat made a merciful change from Barbados. They accorded much more with the popular conception of a Caribbean tour, so that it was with less heavy hearts, as well as with a victory under their belts—albeit a modest one— that the team flew here today.

This morning's news on the local radio led with a recording of the marriage vows of Isaac Vivian Alexander Richards, aged 29, and Miriam Lewis, aged 27. There was, the report said, "a huge number of spectators" outside the church and "the cream of Antigua society" in it. The Test match is likely to be a sellout, too.

Boxing

Working out what went wrong in the ring

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Pat Thomas, of Cardiff, will sit down for a few days and think about what went wrong with his British light-middleweight title defence against Herol Graham, of Sheffield, and decide whether to continue his ring career.

On Tuesday night at the Sheffield City Hall, Thomas went 15 rounds without throwing a punch of significance. The Welshman stalked and stalked but was unable to lay a glove on the clever and lively challenger. I do not believe that in the whole bout Thomas threw more than a score or so punches, his first coming in the fourth round. In the end, Sid Nathan, the referee, scored it 150 to 143—which meant that Graham won every round but one and that was shared. I did not give Thomas one round. Had Graham been as hard a puncher as he was skilful, he would have knocked Thomas out several times over.

There seems to be no explanation for Thomas's performance. He was fit and well as he admitted afterwards but "just couldn't get to him." Clive Hall, his manager, also admitted that he was several times in a position to collar the dancing Graham, but did not. "Pat does not like to waste a punch," he said.

I can only put it down to the fact that Thomas's wide-based sideways-on stance allowed him no leverage against a southpaw moving away, anti-clockwise at first, and jabbing and throwing combinations with great speed. Thomas was bewildered and remained so until the end.

Mr Hall, however, believes that had the adrenalin flowed and Thomas been match sharp he would have won. So if Thomas wants to carry on boxing, Mr Hall might suggest to him regular engagements in Europe to stay sharp and then return at the right moment to square accounts if he wishes.

Thomas's failures should take nothing away from Graham, who boxed delightfully although from time to time he laid on the Sugar Ray Leonard jam a little too thickly. But his 2,000 admirers who packed the hall were highly appreciative. His chin is untested however and will remain so until some Sebastian Coe of the ring gets after him and tags him.

Kenty to defend: Hilmer Kenty will defend his World Boxing Association (WBA) lightweight title against fellow American Sean O'Grady on April 12, the promoter Bob Arum announced yesterday.

O'Grady, the WBA's number one contender, unsuccessfully challenged Jim Watt for the World Boxing Council (WBC) title in Glasgow last November.

The bout was stopped in the 12th round after a clash of heads in the 10th round had opened a long, vertical cut on the American's forehead. O'Grady had had the better of the fight before he was injured.

O'Grady's first fight since that defeat brought him a points victory over Jose Cabrera of Mexico a week ago. He has won 74 of his 76 fights.

Kenty has won all 30 of his professional fights, 28 of them inside the distance.

One of the finest flyweight boxers of recent years, Yoko Gushiken of Japan has retired from the ring because of eye trouble.

The 25-year-old southpaw lost his unbeaten record last month when Mexican Pedro Flores took the World Boxing Association title he had held since October 1976.

Gushiken had scored 23 straight wins and had defended the WBA title 13 times before he lost to Flores.

French racing recovering from the bad weather which closed tracks last month

Dunphy one to follow from Mrs Head's stable

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent
Paris, March 25

The French Flat season has been in progress for nearly a month and certain important Chantilly trainers have still to saddle their first runner. This snap which virtually closed the has been mainly due to a cold training tracks during 10 days of February, but also a reluctance to run horses on courses which, again due to the weather, have not been in the best condition. By the end of March three group races will have been run and the classic season begins to build up with the reopening of Longchamp on April 5.

The Parisian racecourses have a prize money budget this year of 150m francs of which 47 per cent (Fr 71m) is distributed by the Société d'encouragement, the body controlling Longchamp, Chantilly and Deauville. With the exception of the Prix Lupin and Grand Critérium, all group races in France this year have increased prize money with the most spectacular coming in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. To be run for the 60th time on October 4, this year's Arc will be worth Fr2m to the winner (66 per cent up on 1980), but there will be no additional 50 *per cent* prize to the owner of a French-bred winner.

Criquette Head has already met with outstanding success since she began training in 1978 and this year looks like being no exception. Her main classic hope is the Riverman colt, Dunphy, and he makes his reappearance in the nine and threquarter furlong Prix de Guiche at Longchamp on Easter Monday before contesting the Prix Lupin (May 17). Dunphy showed fine acceleration to win last September's Prix des Chênes and then went on to finish third to Recitation and Critique in the Grand Criterium. Dunphy is reported to have passed the winter well and a run in the Epsom Derby is not ruled out by the colt's connexions.

Mrs Head has plenty of other promising three-year-olds in her stable. The ones I would note are Detroit's half sister, Derly (Prix de la Grotte and French 1,000 Guineas), Lydian, Sonoma, who will go sprinting like her full sister Sigy, Valburg, Riverdina, Really Lucky and the unraced colt, Belman.

Alec Head does not seem to have so much talent in his stable. His main hope is Prince Mab, who ran third in the Prix Morny and was just pipped by Miswaki in the Prix de la Salamandre. Prince Mab goes for the Prix de Fontainebleau (April 5) and then the Poule d'Essai des Poulains (*French 2,000 Guineas*) on April 26. The speedy filly Greenway should also earn money for the stable and a lot is expected of the unraced, Fin Gourmet.

François Boutin did not wait for the frost to close Chantilly's training tracks and took some of his stars to winter in the warmth of Pisa in Italy. Among the party was Stavros Niarchos's Cresta Rider, who is now back in France, and looking a picture. This powerful son of Northern Dancer runs in the Fontainebleau and then the French 2,000. As a two-year-old Cresta Rider won the group two Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte before taking fourth place behind Recitation in the Grand Criterium. Other inmates of the Boutin stable sure to be successful this season are Bardenac, Russian Fox, Brustolon, Brinkbero and the filly, Bernica, who runs first in the Prix Vanteaux (April 20) and is now partly owned by Niarchos.

Lester Piggott came to Chantilly on Monday to partner The Wonder in a training gallop. Trained by Jacques de Chevigny, The Wonder goes straight for either the Prix Greffulhe (April 12) or the Prix Noailles eight days later. Last season, The Wonder captured the Prix de Conde and Critérium de St-Cloud and was unlucky when third to Mariacho and Arc d'Or in the Prix Saint-Roman. The Wonder looks destined for further success, as does Mariacho, who is trained by Fréddie Palmer. The colt never raced again after the Saint Roman, has wintered well and will be seen again in the Prix Greffulhe.

Big John won last season's Prix Thomas Bryon and could have remained unbeaten but for swallowing his tongue in the Prix des Chênes. Emmanuel Chevalier du Fau raced the colt in the Prix Omnium II at St-Cloud this afternoon as a prelude to the French 2,000 Guineas and he won easily.

Australian-born John Fellows has a fine filly in Ancient Regime, who ran second in the Prix Robert Papin, won the Prix Morny and then fractured a bone when running down the field in the Prix de la Salamandre. She is now in perfect health and will tackle the Prix de la Grotte before the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches.

Olivier Douieb's hopes of a classic winner this season mainly rest with Irish Playboy and Robert Sangster's filly, Phydilla. She goes for the Prix de la Grotte and then the French 1,000 Guineas. Irish Playboy, the winner of the Prix Robert Papin, is another for the Fontainebleau with eyes on the Poulains. Another young trainer with a potential champion is David Smaga. He now trains I'll Take Paris, who was bought out of the Boutin stable by Daniel Wildenstein during the winter and appears first in the Prix Vanteaux.

Finally, of the older horses in training who should be worth following in 1981, I pick last year's *Arc de Triomphe heroine, Detroit*, Argument, Aryenne, Glenorum and Ruscelli, who all meet in the Prix d'Harcourt, and Lancastrian, Gold River, In Fijar, Hilal and Chicbury.

Golf

Newmans manage smile in defeat

By John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent

Two players remain to carry the flag for the women in the Sunningdale foursomes, Stephanie Lowe, a 16-year-old Shrewsbury schoolgirl, and Amanda Middleton, a professional attached to the home club. Yet it was a third, Pauline Newman, who held much of the interest yesterday.

Mrs Newman, a 39-year-old teaching professional at the side of her husband Robert at Maidenhead, was beaten in the fourth round, but in such heroic circumstances that the paid were able to smile in defeat.

Three times in the last 18 months Mrs Newman has had to have major surgery for three different serious ailments. That she should even think about competitive golf is a minor triumph, but she and her husband got through two rounds, after receiving a bye, and yielded only on the last green to Clifford Potts and Martin Wild, the two young lions who had knocked out the holders, Neil Coles and Doug McClelland, the day before.

Potts holed from 10ft for a two on the 13th to go two up and when Mrs Newman failed to carry the heather fronting the 14th fairway by a great distance, knowing heads nodded sagely. Pauline, poor lass, had run out of steam, and who could blame her?

However, the Newmans then took three holes in a row to get back to all square, with the wife playing a full part in the recovery. She then struck a good drive at the 18th and next invited her husband to hole from 6in for a four. Alas, he never had a chance: Potts got home from 12ft for a three, one of the few birdies on that hole all day.

THIRD ROUND: B. Newman and Mrs P. Newman (4) 4 and 3 I. A. Grant and F. Kiddie (+2); C. Potts [illegible] G. E. Hyde and N. Mitchell (scr) at 21st B. J. Hunt and I. M. Stungo (+1) [illegible] Johnson: MacDonald and Cameron 20th Parker and Meager; Foreman [illegible]

[illegible] D. Gannicleft and R. Lawrence (scr) 1 hole R. Sandford and Miss C. Panton (5): G. McKay and A. Wratling (+1) 2 and 1 G. Torbett and R. Smith (scr): H. W. Muscroft and D. G. Muscroft (+1) 1 hole C. Cox and N. Burch (+2): R. Boxall and M. Johnson (scr) 7 and 6 P. Chapman and K. Bull (+1). B. Evans and Miss S. Lowe (5) 3 and 2 T. Barter and R. Sargent (+1): A. J. Parish and R. Attinger (scr) 6 and 5 V. Elvidge and K. Benson (+2): M. R. Few and F. Hill (+1) 6 and 4 G. Alliss and P. Alliss (+2): P. Stow and M. Stupple (+1) 2 and 1 I. Grant and A. MacLaren (+1).

P. Taylor and A. R. Kerr (+1) 2 holes C. Rola and C. Burgess (+1); C. Hunt and R. Brown (+2) 2 and 1 J. Hamilton and B. Griffiths (+1).

[illegible] McLean and Wyatt: Allisses at 19th Mrs Chapman and Hughes. Few and Hill 2 and 1 Miss Harridge and Hall. Stow and Stupple 5 and 3 Noakes and Longmore. Grant and MacLaren 2 and 1 Hunt and Summers.

FOURTH ROUND: Potts and Wild 1 hole Newman and Mrs Newman; Lyddon and Brand 2 and 1 Whitehead and Simpson; Hunter and Miss Middleton 3 and 2 Patterson and Burrow; Wyer and Read 3 and 1 McLean and Way; Evans and Jones 4 and 3 Mitchell and Green; Hunt and Brown 2 holes Dungate and Tomsett; Elvin and Lawrence 6 and 5 Adwick and Sheppard; Sherborne and Bessell 1 hole Brake and Gowdy.

King and Dixon 3 and 2 Robson and Porter; Gannicleft and Lawrence 1 hole McKay and Wratting; Muscroft and Muscroft 5 and 4 Boxall and [illegible]

[illegible] R. Burgess (+1): T. L. Parker and A. Meager (+1) 2 holes Miss J. Smurthwaite and N. Jordan (5).

M. Smedley and G. Brown (scr) 3 and 1 A. M. Finney and L. Roberts (+2): C. Mitchell and P. Green (+1) 6 and 5 S. R. Buckley and S. C. Illingworth (+1): G. Bothwell and R. B. Willison (scr) 1 hole R. A. Doig and A. Stevens (+1): H. J. Evans and J. R. Jones (scr) 2 and 1 A. Stickley and R. P. Mills (+1).

Clements and Rattue 1 hole Colwin and Brogden. Foremans 1 hole Wooller and Cowlishaw. Platts 3 and 2 Corlass and Best. Geddes and Foster 1 hole Barr and Nudds. Hall and Bird 4 and 2 Lamble and Miss Bamford. Bevan and Curtis 3 and 1 Everett and Coutts. Pinner and Harrison 5 and 2 Aris and Hughes. Ray and Mudge 2 and 1 Shipley and Dawson.

Bonol could continue Easterby's winning streak

By Michael Seely

Peter Easterby, fresh from his triumphs with Sea Pigeon and Little Owl at Cheltenham, can start the 1981 flat racing season on a high note by winning the Doncaster Mile with Bonol this afternoon. Doncaster's enterprise in staging this £10,000 conditions race has been rewarded, as Bonol, Cracaval and Son Fils are three useful horses to have attracted on the first day of the campaign.

Bonol had only a short three-year-old career. He showed a liking for soft ground when successful at this meeting last March and again when winning the Northern Free Handicap at Newcastle. Easterby then sent Pat Muldoon's colt down to Newmarket for the Craven Stakes. Bonol moved badly on the way to the start and although he ran respectably, could only finish fourth to Tyrnavos. He was then due to run at Royal Ascot, but met with an accident when being loaded into a horse-box and cracked a bone in his leg. Bonol was confined to his stable for three months but is now reported to be fully recovered and to have excelled in his recent homework.

Cracaval is a top-class colt on his day, as he proved when finishing third to Master Willie and Cairn Rouge in the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup at York last August.

However, not only is Barry Hills' four-year-old not entirely reliable, he is also more effective over longer distances. The same proviso certainly applies to Son Fils who, despite having only one success last season turned in several fine performances, notably when running Nicholas Bill to a neck at Newmarket's July meeting. Over Bonol's best distance the Yorkshire-trained colt is a confident selection.

Finding the winners will obviously not be easy, although in the Northern Handicap most of the runners are sure to be fit. Path of Peace, Intinto, Killer Shark and Grey Mountain have all been busy hurdling and Clive Brittain's candidate, Marcello, has already won two of his three races in Cagnes-sur-Mer. Killer Shark has the ability to win this race.

Guy Harwood's horses are reported to be well forward in condition. In the French Gate Stakes, the Pulborough trainer is represented by Santellas, who on his only appearance as a two-year-old showed a deal of promise for the future when fourth to Button Top at Newmarket in October. There is also a whisper abroad for Edward Hide's mount, Saulingdale. Last October Bill Elsy's colt showed his ability to cope with heavy ground when third to Supreme Fjord in a nursery on this track, but Santellas is still preferred.

Paddock experts will be expected around the parade ring to inspect the runners for the first two-year-old race of the season, the Brocklesby Stakes. The best reports concern Six Legs. Sired by Three Legs out of a French-bred mare, Denys Smith's colt is said to have been working well at Bishop Auckland and is thought likely to go close to winning.

Finally, some jumping news. Michael Dickinson said yesterday that Silver Buck is in good heart and will renew his Cheltenham Gold Cup rivalry with Night Nurse in the Welsh Champion Chase at Chepstow on Easter Tuesday. At Towcester this afternoon, Flagstaff can record his fourth victory in succession for Tim Forster in the Wood Burcote Handicap Chase and Roadhead, who was not disgraced when third to Shannon Bridge and Dancing Brig at Lingfield, should have the measure of his opponents in the Manning Hunters' Challenge Cup.

Kelso results

2.15: 1, Hope of Oak (7-2 fav); 2, Paul Scarlet (16-1); 3, Conl Sol (13-1). 17 ran. NR: My Star Hussar.

2.45: 1, Solo Jam (5-1); 2, Peaty Sandy (4-1); 3, Camdonagh (20-1). Kelso Chant and Another Captain 11-4 jt favs. 9 ran. NR: Scrunch.

3.15: 1, New Formula (7-2 jt fav); 2, Master Marmaduke (25-1); 3, Tilston (7-2 jt fav). 15 ran. NR: Mr Freeze.

3.45: 1, Saucy Eater (16-1); 2, Tall Order (12-1); 3, Nodana. His Reverence 4-1 fav. Who's Free (14-1) 4th. 20 ran.

4.15: 1, Lord Provost (5-4 fav); 2, Spartan Red (16-1); 3, Mystic Match (5-1). 14 ran.

4.45: 1, Fernez (33-1); 2, Dunaran (16-1); 3, Manesty (12-1). Paddy-One-Row 5-2 fav. 21 ran.

STATE OF GOING (official): Doncaster: Soft. Towcester: Soft (no inspection planned). Tomorrow: Devon and Exeter: Heavy (inspection 10.30 today).

Doncaster programme

[Television (ITV): 2.35, 3.5 and 3.35 races]

2.0 BROCKLESBY STAKES (2-y-o c and g: £1,629: 5f)

[illegible]

2.35 NORTHERN HANDICAP (£3,282: 1½m)

[illegible]

3.5 YORKSHIRE BOTTLE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £7,830: 5f)



[illegible]

3.35 DONCASTER MILE (£7,167: 1m)

401	023000-	Cracaval, B. Hills, 5-9-4	S. Cauthen	9
402	01/114-	Bonol (C), M. H. Easterby, 4-8-13	M. Birch	8
403	000001-	Braughing (D), C. Brittain, 4-8-13	E. Johnson	1
405	003030-	Davidgalaxy Affair, F. Yardley, 4-8-13	P. Eddery	6
406	020101-	Jondale (CD), W. Elsey, 4-8-13	E. Hide	2
407	01/1-	Jubilee Lights (C), R. Turnell, 4-8-13	W. Carson	7
409	33/2300-	Penacynor, J. Bingham, 5-8-13	G. Dwyer	3
410	130203-	Son Fils (C), M. Pipe, 6-8-13	L. Piggott	4
411	000000-	Topsin (D), O. Jorgensen, 6-8-13	J. Reid	5

11-4 Bonol, 100-30 Cracaval, 4-1 Son Fils, 8-1 Braughing, 10-1 Jondale, 12-1 Jubilee Lights, 14-1 Penacynor, 20-1 Davidgalaxy Affair, 33-1 Topsin.

4.5 FRENCH GATE SWEEPSTAKES (3-y-o maidens: £1,035: 7f)

501	000-	Atkinson Grimshaw, W. Wightman, 9-0	G. Baxter	17
502	20-	Banoco, H. Price, 9-0	B. Rouse	21
503	0-	Brass Change, A. Bailey, 9-0	—	15
504	0-	Brave Gem, P. Cundell, 9-0	B. Taylor	12
505	403000-	Breton Banquet, W. Marshall, 9-0	P. Cook	13
506	040-	Christmas Cottage, J. Mason, 9-0	G. Oldroyd	11
507	40-	Henry's Wish, N. Callaghan, 9-0	B. Raymond	7
508	0-	Horbie Quayle, B. Hills, 9-0	R. Street	3
509	0d3-	Holmbury Lad, B. Swift, 9-0	M. Thomas	9
510	0-	Liechtenstein, C. Brittain, 9-0	E. Johnson	16
512	04-	Operation Cyril, W. Guest, 9-0	P. Gunn	2
514		Pick a Straw, B. Hills, 9-0	K. Willey 7	10
515	2000-	Prince Diamond, B. Hills, 9-0	S. Cauthen	1
518	4-	Santellas, G. Harwood, 9-0	G. Starkey	23
519	00003-	Saulingdale, W. Elsey, 9-0	E. Hide	4
521	00040-	Scrappit, S. Norton, 9-0	J. Lowe	8
522	200202-	Standon Rock, P. Kelleway, 9-0	L. Piggott	20
524	0002-	Stowmarket, H. Wragg, 9-0	S. Parr 5	5
525	000234-	Sun Diver, Denys Smith, 9-0	R. Sidebottom 5	6
528		Yamamoto, P. Rohan, 9-0	C. Dwyer	14
531	000040-	Red Petal, W. Marshall, 8-11	T. Ives	19
533	20-	Serpina, R. Houghton, 8-11	J. Reid	18

7-3 Standon Rock, 4-1 Holmbury Lad, 9-2 Santellas, 5-1 Serpina, 15-2 Banoco, 8-1 Pick a Straw, 12-1 Operation Cyril, 16-1 Saulingdale, 20-1 others.

4.35 INTAKE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,643: 1m)

601	024120-	Shangarry, H. Price, 9-7	B. Rouse	2
602	221-340	Ring Bidder (B), C. Brittain, 9-5	E. Johnson	9
603	0001-	Sha'lan (D), G. Hunter, 9-5	P. Cook	3
604	04010-	Hiz, H. Price, 9-4	J. Blanks	6
607	04020-	Soukab (B), G. Lewis, 8-13	G. Sexton	7
609	030300-	Lord Wimpy, R. Hannon, 8-6	P. Eddery	4
610	400000-	Prince Beowulf, R. Hollinshead, 8-4	Paul Eddery 5	5
611	000-	Luxembourg, R. Stubbs, 8-0	S. Webster	1
612	000-	Solaire Prince, T. M. Jones, 7-8	R. Fox	8

11-4 Sha'lan, 7-2 Shangarry, 4-1 Ring Bidder, 6-1 Soukab, 8-1 Hiz, 10-1 Lord Wimpy, 14-1 Prince Beowulf, 16-1 others.

Doncaster selections

By Michael Seely
2.0 Six Legs. 2.35 Killer Shark. 3.5 Chumwar. 3.35 BONOL is specially recommended. 4.5 Santellas. 4.35 Shangarry.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Milk Heart. 2.35 Killer Shark. 3.5 El Presidente. 3.35 Braughing. 4.5 Standon Rock. 4.35 Ring Bidder.

Towcester NH

2.15 GREENS NORTON HURDLE (Div I)

[illegible]

3.15 WHITTLEBURY HURDLE (Handicap)

[illegible]

3.45 WOOD BURCOTE CHASE (Handicap: £987: 3m 190yd)

002 Brown Jock, 13-11-3 .. H. Davies
100 Joint Venture, 12-10-13 ... Champion
111 Flagstaff, 9-10-7 .... Francome
231 Railway Line, 9-10-7 Mr Webber
123 Physicist, 9-10-4 .... Rowe
110 Modoc, 9-10-4 .. Smith Eccles
313 Monty Python, 9-10-4 .. Smart
14u Albury Lad, 11-10-3 .... Jobar
-0pp Winterbourne Lad, 8-10-0 Waite
040 Menquilla, 8-10-0 .... De Haan
pp0 *Highland Barolo, 9-10-0 .. —

[illegible]

4.15 MANNING HUNTERS' CHALLENGE CUP

[illegible]

4- Jack Donore, 8-11-9 .. Robinson
pp Karl's Fire, 9-11-9 .... Mrs Gill
Mid Anglia, 7-11-9 .. Pritchard
Straightlace, 9-11-9 .. Wilkinson
f Teatby Lad, 6-11-9 ...... Jones
f Whitgee, 8-11-9 .... Webber

11-8 Roadhead, 3-1 The Trout, 7-2 Fury Boy, 9-2 Beck'n Call.

4.45 GREENS NORTON HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £552: 2m)

Caridine, 6-11-7 .... —
Caucasian, 6-11-7 .. H. Davies
0-p0 Chirundu, 8-11-7 .. Mr Thomson

[illegible]

402 Sydney Quin, 9-10-4 .. Webber
302 Foreign Legion, 10-11-2 McNally
331 Linarito, 10-10-9 .... Mr Sharpe
50u Dandy Man, 12-10-6 .... Waite

Opu Boxfoot, 6-10-0 ...... Hughes
7-4 Simbad, 3-1 Breeze Along, 9-2 Veramente, 7-1 Speed of Light.

p0p- Blue Cap, 8-11-9 .... Saunders
50-p Bobby's Fox, 8-11-9 .... Mann
0-p3 Chingsun, 8-10-9 ...... Woolley
f Farmist, 7-11-9 ...... Miss Hart

TOWCESTER SELECTIONS (by Michael Seely): 2.15 Royal Pine. 2.45 Pine Brook. 3.15 Simbad. 3.45 Flagstaff. 4.15 Roadhead. 4.45 Murray Close.

Badminton

No blood and thunder from Delfs and Hartono

By Richard Streeton

The eagerly awaited first round meeting between Rudi Hartono of Indonesia and Flemming Delfs of Denmark, the present and immediate past world champions, produced something of a damp squib at Wembley yesterday at the start of the All England Badminton championships, sponsored by John Player. Hartono won a tame, unexhilarating match 15—8, 15—4. Although the spectators paid these former great players the compliment of ignoring the other six courts in use while their match lasted, the crowd afterwards were left with a feeling of having been let down.

Delfs later said that as the reigning European champion he resented not having been seeded, irrespective of his inconsistent results this season. He felt his record in the past had earned him the seventh or eighth seeding place, at least ahead of England's Ray Stevens and Kevin Jolly. Delfs has never beaten Hartono and this, coupled with an atmosphere in the hall akin to an audience watching the final act of Macbeth before the earlier acts, undoubtedly had a hand in the lacklustre atmosphere.

It was admittedly an unfortunate draw and Hartono, the eight times All-England champion in the past, playing at Wembley for the first time since 1978, did no more than he had to to win. Both men, clearly past their west, shared deft and skilful touches at the net, and there were few rallies which probably suited the two men, both 29, and recently troubled by foot injuries.

The outcome was tantamount almost to a slow motion film. There were deceptions galore; there were some clever placements and changes of length and pace, particularly by the Indonesian. Absent, however, was the blood and thunder expected from such a match. The many school parties present will be able to tell their grandchildren they saw Hartono and Delfs in action but, sadly, they will quickly pass on to discuss other players.

The contest lasted 36 minutes. Only once in the first game, with Hartono 12—8 ahead, was there a fierce rally. The Indonesian, who had moved into the lead at 7—6, rushed through the last five points with only two changes of service. In the second it was even more one sided although nothing happened to suggest that Hartono will win the title yet again next Sunday.

Overall there were few upsets with Liem Swie King (Indonesia) Morten Fost Hansen (Denmark) and Lius Pongoh (Indonesia) of the favourites, all winning early matches with smooth efficiency. Stevens and Jolly both came through after minor alarms. Stevens, riddled with early errors, was 9—2 down in the first game before he beat the Swedish doubles player Stefan Karlsson 15—10, 15—6. Jolly, whose service was faulted several times early on, defeated the Danish No. 3 Steen Fladberg 12—15, 15—9, 15—10 before having an easier time as he won against Sanjay Sharma.

The women's singles Karen Bridge of England was responsible for the first seed being beaten when she defeated the eighth seeded Wendy Carter of Canada 11—3, 11—6.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	60	320	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Fine	12
Wet snow on all slopes							
Avoriaz	140	230	Fair	Heavy	Slush	Fine	12
Slushy snow off piste							
Crans Montana	35	100	Poor	Varied	Good	Fine	13
Worn patches on all slopes							
Flaine	105	505	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Thaw	16
Slush on lower slopes							
Kitzbühel	20	150	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Fine	11
Rain-soaked pistes							
Les Arcs	100	210	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Fine	8
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Serre Chevalier	10	80	Worn	Varied	Poor	Fine	6
Good high level runs							
Tignes	120	235	Good	Heavy	Wet	Cloud	1
Risk of avalanche							
Verbier	10	200	Good	Heavy	Poor	Sunny	13
Very wet snow							
Wengen	51	150	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	10
Some worn patches lower down							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: Main runs, a few runs complete but narrow, very wet snow. Lower slopes, little snow. Vertical runs, 1,400ft. Access roads, clear. Snow level, 2,500ft. Glen Shee: Main runs, no runs complete, patchy cover of wet snow. Lower slopes, limited nursery areas, wet snow. Vertical runs, 200ft. Access roads, clear. Snow level, 2,500ft. Glencoe: Main runs, most runs complete, very wet snow. Lower slopes, limited nursery areas, very wet snow. Vertical runs, 1,200ft. Access roads, clear. Snow level, 2,300ft. Lecht: Main runs, a few complete, but narrow, wet snow. Lower slopes, limited nursery areas, wet snow. Vertical runs, 600ft. Access roads, clear. Snow level, 2,000ft.

Tennis

Miss Allen starting to put the record straight

From Dennis Lehane
New York, March 25

Leslie Allen today defeated the higher-ranked Hanna Mandlikova in straight sets 7—5, 6—1 in the opening game of the women's finals, sponsored by Avon, in Madison Square Gardens. Only the top seed, Martina Navratilova has played in the Avon finals before. Chris Lloyd, Tracy Austin and Billie-Jean King were absent through injury and Evonne Cawley is pregnant.

Miss Allen is from Ohio, but has recently moved to Manhatten. This has elevated her to the status of 'New Yorker', and thus the only home town girl in the field. But there was more significance to her victory than "home town girl makes good".

Miss Allen is, in fact, almost a cliche, for she is young, beautiful, black and a college graduate. She is the first black woman tennis player to emerge in world tennis in a generation. Not since Althea Gibson won Wimbledon and the United States championship in 1958 had a black woman won a leading tournament, before Miss Allen won an Avon tournament in Detroit last month.

She is six feet tall with long, slender legs full of power and grace. Her's is a power game, founded on a bullet-like first serve and an only slightly less formidable second; a strong, punchy, double-fisted backhand, and a winning whiplash forehand. She goes for her shots, and when they come off, as they did in the second set against Mis Mandlikova, she seems unbeatable. She clearly has the equipment to become a force in women's tennis, but has she the temperament?

Today's game would suggest that it is th ehitherto more highly-rated Miss Mandlikova whose temperament is suspect. In an opening set of even fortunes with both women making unforced errors, perhaps because of early nerves, it was the 19-year-old Czech girl who finally cracked. She broke Miss Allen to lead 3—2 but immediately lost her own serve, double-faulting at 15—40 down. Miss Allen lost the ninth game to love, but Miss Mandlikova could not press home her advantage.

This tense game of the first set was to be the turning point of the match. In the interval between the ninth and tenth games, Miss Allen appeared to write in a notebook. She explained that it was a way of relieving tension: "Instead of just sitting there brooding, I wrote down things like 'Gee, you are a good tennis player. You can get your first serve in'", she said.

Miss Mandlikova won only one more game, breaking Miss Allen in the first game of the second set. Miss Allen, having overcome Miss Mandlikova in a shade under 45 minutes in the first set, took the second set in 20, winning the last six games in a row.

Rowing

Cambridge ring the changes but draw little comfort

By Jim Railton

One can only commiserate with Cambridge at the moment. Yesterday, just 10 days before the Boat Race, they went out with three different line-ups in the space of two outings. Their quest appears to be for a new number seven but, when experiments needed to be attempted, Cambridge were at half-throttle all day with their number six, Graham Phillips, still feeling the effects of a virus.

In the morning they set off from Putney in their usual crew order but stopped at Hammersmith to allow Cowie at bow to change with Baart at seven. They rowed against their host club, Barclays Bank, but, nursing Phillips, "raced" short pieces and only once made much of an impression on Barclays. The Cambridge coach, Graeme Hall, explained with a twinkle in his eye: "A temporary change can have a habit of becoming permanent."

Well, this change lasted for just a couple of hours. For the afternoon outing the Cambridge president, James Palmer, moved up to seven, Cowie took his place at five and Baart remained in the bows. Cambridge cancelled their outing against London University and understandably again could do little in terms of work.

However, Palmer appears on this scanty evidence to have given more length and cohesion to back up the stroke, Dalrymple, but one can only wonder how, after weeks of training, the right blend has not been achieved before arriving at Putney. There is a desperate insecurity, but fortunately Cambridge now have an Olympic coach at the helm. At the moment he has a daunting task.

Oxford were in lively form yesterday morning but looked unsteady in the afternoon on the top of the tide. The reason for this soon became apparent, when the coach, Dan Topolski, explained that the seats were twisting as they rowed up and down the slide. "It is nerve-racking", he said, particularly as all the seats have just been changed.

Oxford have to get their equipment shipshape at once, for without a steady floating base they cannot demonstrate their real potential.

TODAY'S OUTINGS: Oxford, 10.30 and 3.30; Cambridge 10.30 and 3.0.

Tennis

MILAN: First round: M. Wilander (Sweden) beat P. Rennert (US), 6—3, 6—1; V. Amritraj (India) beat F. Taygan (US), 4—6, 6—3, 6—1; S. Mayer (US) beat F. Buehning (US), 6—2, 6—0; B. Gottfried (US) beat R. Gehring (WG), 6—1, 6—1; G. Mayer (US) beat A. Gomez (Ecuador), 7—5, 6—1; V. Amaya (US) beat J. Sadri (US), 7—6, 6—2; S. Smith (US) beat R. Lutz (US), 6—3, 6—2; H. Gunthardt (Switzerland) beat P. Bertolucci (Italy), 6—2, 6—4; B. Borg (Sweden) beat T. Wittke (US), 6—1, 6—3; J. McEnroe (US) beat R. Ramirez (Mexico), 7—6, 6—4; C. Kirmayr (Brazil) beat A. Panatta (Italy), 6—0, 6—3. Second round: G. Mayer (US) beat P. Rennert (US), 6—2, 6—2; G. Ocleppo (Italy) beat V. Amaya 6—5 retired.

The questions unanswered in the Hayman case

Ronald Butt on parliamentary privilege and the unexplained attitude of the Director of Public Prosecutions in the use of his discretion



Sir Thomas Hetherington, Director of Public Prosecutions, and Mr Geoffrey Dickens: a question of judgment.

The privilege which allows a Member of Parliament to say, inside the House of Commons, whatever he thinks ought to be said, protected from an action of libel, is granted in the public interest. It exists so that the nation's elected representatives should be free to speak when they think that the public good is thwarted by the restrictions on such openness outside Parliament.

Like any other privilege it can be abused, and it seems to be the opinion of some that Mr Geoffrey Dickens did abuse it when he refused to accept that the Director of Public Prosecutions had used his discretion well in refraining from taking proceedings against Sir Peter Hayman for sending pornographic material (of a paedophiliac kind) through the mail, which is illegal under the Post Office Act.

It has even been suggested that Mr Dickens's revelations of the problems of his own love-life somehow diminish his right to pass the "moral judgment" implicit in the naming of Sir Peter Hayman. That is easily disposed of. If every man who has left his wife (or vice versa) or whose style of announcing the fact is risible, were to disqualify himself from making moral judgments on other and graver matters, we should find an alarmingly high proportion of the nation inhibited from asserting that murder is wrong and from taking any action open to them to back up that moral judgment.

So the real question is whether the underlying issue in the Hayman case was sufficiently grave and important for Mr Dickens to exercise his right to prefer his own judgment to that of the DPP and of the Attorney General, and whether the public interest justified the naming of Sir Peter Hayman notwithstanding all other considerations.

There is no dispute by Sir Peter Hayman's solicitor, Sir David Napley, that his client was involved in passing pornography illegally through the mail. Sir David's justification of the DPP's decision not to prosecute was on the quite different grounds that a customary factor taken into account when deciding whether to prosecute was "whether the indirect punishment and hardship which a defendant may suffer is likely to be so disproportionate to the severity of the alleged offence and to any penalty imposed by a court that it would be unjust to prosecute".

"This", Sir David asserted, "was overwhelmingly the situation in Sir Peter's case, and manifestly justifies the director's decision." On the contrary. Far from justifying the DPP's decision, the excuse condemns it. If a man is to be excused the due processes of law, other things being equal, because he is well known, then we are indeed in a two nations society.

It may be said that the DPP does not act precisely on the criterion as phrased by Sir David Napley, but rather on a broader and looser concept of the public interest—but we are still entitled ask how this is interpreted, particularly since we knew that special treatment was accorded to Sir Peter Hayman in that he alone was allowed to keep his pseudonym ("Henderson") throughout the police proceedings, and unlike the other men who were warned by the police in this case, was not required to appear in court.

But all this is of secondary importance to the fundamental question, which is whether this was a sufficiently trivial case to justify the clemency of non-prosecution, whether granted to a diplomat or a dustman. Of course, we understand the special suffering of prominent people when they fall into ignominy, and most of us might agree that they should be spared it, by the DPP's discretion where the offence really is trivial or merely pathetic. But the offence here is anything but merely trivial or pathetic.

Some may argue that passing pornography through the post, though illegal, is not a very serious offence. But this was not pornography involving what might be called consenting adults but requiring the abuse of children. The issue is not whether a paedophile should or should not be punished for his inclination, but whether he can be allowed to indulge a taste which often requires the exploitation of real children to cater for it, and who are trapped, sometimes by poverty in other countries, into doing what pleases the paedophiles.

Some years ago I was shown material of this kind at Scotland Yard that was the subject of a case before the courts. It was a case about which I had been making inquiries principally because of the curious and incomprehensible reluctance of the DPP's office at that time to call an "expert" witness for the prosecution to counter the "expert" witnesses customarily called by the defence to argue that even the most bestial pornography could have "therapeutic" value. Dr John Court had come from Australia on a private initiative prepared to give evidence, but it was only after hesitation that the decision was made to call him for the prosecution officially. Significantly, the prosecution was successful in this case, as it had not been when the defence "expert" witnesses went unchallenged.

The material in that particular case was loathsome beyond any normal imagining and it involved children, not fantasy figures. We cannot escape from the fact that in one way or another pornography of this nature always does involve real children, either because they are employed to make it or because it escalates a taste which may put other children in danger.

Indeed, we now have a law (put on the statue book against the wish of the Home Office at the time which chose to think there was no real problem) to prohibit the use of children in pornography. This law can only protect children in this country, but when we make such provision for ourselves, can we really say that it is a trivial matter if the addiction of the paedophiles here is allowed to encourage the making of child pornography in other countries?

The attempted spread of paedophilia and its justification must not be assisted by conniving at the escape from the law of addicts who are prominent in public life, as though the suffering of their ignominy is greater than that of the victims of their sexual perversion.

Yet we are invited to listen, straight-faced, to the self-pitying paedophiles, one of whose unnamed spokesmen has stated about the Hayman case: "It is a tragedy for us as a group. We have become very frightened men. A good number are family men with a lot to lose". Indeed, one of the most alarming phenomena of recent years has been the attempt to rationalize paedophilia as inescapable for some people, or even as comparatively harmless.

Some of those most guilty of conniving at the attempt to make the paedophile "movement" respectable have been other pressure groups in receipt of government money and support. Five years ago (January 22, 1976) I drew attention at the time of an attempt to abolish the age of consent, to the activities of the Paedophile Information Exchange, and pointed out that *Mind Out*, the journal of the then National Association for Mental Health, now MIND, had given PIE as "*one of the organizations to write to*" for sexual minorities, had organized a two day "workshop" on paedophilia, and had printed a paedophile plea: "We are warm and gentle people. What has to change is attitudes to children's sexuality and parents' attitudes to their children."

On another occasion, Mr Tony Smythe of MIND told a paedophile meeting (presumably because he thought the paedophiles were moving too fast for their own success): "You have touched the funny bone of society. I urge you to gradualize your efforts." Likewise, "Release", an organization concerned with drug addicts, for a time provided PIE with an accommodation address, which was given on PIE's enrolment form.

We can now see how near PIE came to achieving a kind of respectability among radical pressure groups and even a bland tolerance in Whitehall, and it is in the public interest that this movement and its supporters should not be left in the dark simply because some of its people are deemed too eminent for public identification. We also have to worry that those who have extended a helping hand to PIE have too often seemed concerned not to help paedophiles to overcome their addiction but to persuade the rest of the world to accept it as inevitable and tolerable.

A former DPP, Sir Norman Skelhorn, illustrating the way in which the DPP's discretion is and is not used, gave *The Sunday Times* this week the following example. "One would always proceed in a case of murder because it would never be in the public interest not to do so". Must it not also be in the public interest always to proceed in a case involving child pornography?

If not, the DPP should explain why. He might also tell us why his office justify non-prosecution in this case on the grounds that no financial gain was involved and the material in the Hayman/Henderson case was "not unsolicited".

The Post Office Act makes no stipulation that it is only unsolicited pornographic material that it is illegal to send through the mail. Why, then, does the DDP gloss the statute in this way? We understand that judges make case law in open court; it is a new departure for the DPP to do so *in camera*—or is it? In this matter there is a strong public interest. Wherever Mr Dickens got his information from, and whoever encouraged him to use it, it cannot be wrong that this case has been thrown open to light by parliamentary privilege, the long-stop of our liberties.

Why people are hungry for this new beginning

Shirley Williams on the political party to be launched today

Today is the birthday of the first new national party to be launched in Britain for 80 years. The Social Democratic Party is being born on the same day in nine cities, including the capitals of Scotland and Wales. The gesture is more than symbolic. Ours is to be a party of the nations and regions, the towns and villages of Britain. It will not be a party dominated from the centre.

It will be a party of individual members. We shall not accept the affiliation of trade unions or businesses. We shall welcome every member, and ask them to contribute as much as they can afford, needed all the more because we shall not allow voting power to be bought by block affiliations. But those who cannot afford to pay the full cost of membership will be welcome, and their votes will count for as much as anyone else's.

The SDP will be based on the equal votes of individuals and on secret ballots. Our candidates, officers and leaders will be chosen by the members, all of them. Every leader and member of the steering committee holds his or her place provisionally until there is a properly established organization, but must then submit to election. The use of the trade union block vote to elect a party leader who might become the Prime Minister of Britain was for three of us who signed the Limehouse Declaration the immediate though not the sole issue which precipitated our breach with the Labour Party. So the new party will be transparently democratic.

Our collective leadership, which will remain throughout this interim period, and perhaps beyond if the membership so wishes, challenges the conventional pyramid structure of the old parties.

It also offers great dividends: complementary experience and complementary knowledge of a wider range of government departments and subjects than any single leader could ever have. The collective leadership reflects in ourselves the participation and mutual respect we stand for, in industry, the social services, and in the family itself. The days of the paterfamilias are as dead as those of the autocratic employer. So why should such concepts survive unchallenged in politics?

We want the relationship between the steering committee, the Parliamentary committee and the members to be a two-way communication: our monthly newsletter and our discussion papers in a new Open Forum series will invite a response to questions about policy and organization.

Each local group or regional group will, we hope, undertake a profile of its own area—its public services, its industry, its social provision—and then consider what would be the consequences for that locality of certain national policies being adopted, for instance on regional incentives or on minimum educational standards or on local income tax. In this way, the principle of decentralization for which we stand will gain reality.

The danger for any new party, at a time of disillusion with the old parties, is that it becomes all things to all men: that each person projects his or her ideal on to this amorphous and attractive concept. So we have talked clearly about those of our objectives that, according to the opinion polls, are not popular, as well as those that are.

Our commitments, often repeated, to reforming the European Community from within, to stepping up financial assistance to the developing countries, to true sex and race equality within Britain, are not, as we are told, election winners. Yet we have gained the sympathy of a quarter of Britain's voters, and between a third and two-fifths if Social Democrats fight together with Liberals.

Such an outcome is unprecedented in the history of opinion polls in this country. Even more encouraging, support for the Social Democrats comes from both sexes, all age groups and all income groups in approximate proportion to their share of the British population.

Unlike support for the Conservative party, SD support is not nearly three times higher among professional, administrative and managerial groups than among semi-skilled or unskilled workers. Equally however, SD support is not disproportionately concentrated among these sectors, as Labour support is. For a party committed to breaking the mould of class politics, we have exactly the broad base we need.

Furthermore, Social Democratic supporters, if recent polls on attitudes to policy are correct, are consistently more liberal on law and order and capital punishment, more generous on financial aid to the developing countries, more fair-minded towards ethnic minorities than those of any other political group, while being strongly committed to a mixed economy and effective social services.



Shirley Williams: a gamble.

What is being attempted today is a gamble, of course. Yet if that gamble is not attempted, failure for the country is probable. To drift into extremism with the Labour Party, which is still unwilling to grasp the real issues of one member one vote, of reselection and entryism, of the move to impose party direction on elected representatives: that would be to risk the destruction of parliamentary democracy. To cling tenaciously to the harsh and mutually contradictory doctrines of the Government is to risk the destruction of much of British industry and to tear our divided but so far orderly society apart.

The hunger of many people for a new political beginning is evident in the thousands of letters we Social Democrats have received. The writers of these letters detest tyranny; indeed the devotion to individual liberty and to representative democracy is moving, and is expressed in letters from all parts of the country.

They are worried about present and projected future levels of unemployment. They are fed up with the political game that makes each government reject even what was good in its predecessor's achievements; they despair of the unwillingness of the two big parties to abandon class antagonism or to accept the mixed economy as a lasting and sensible compromise. Above all they fear for Britain, and wonder whether she has a future: what, they ask, is to happen to our children?

There never was a better moment to make a new beginning than now.

Bernard Levin

What an Armenian remembers

Last New Year's Eve (but as Dr Johnson said, a man is not on oath on New Year's Eve), I took as my starting-point the case of a Turkish diplomat murdered in Australia a week or two before by a group of Armenians, who claimed to have committed the crime because of Turkish atrocities against the Armenian people during the First World War. This struck me as rather a long time to keep thoughts of revenge alive, and I said so. I still think so, as a matter of fact, but since my words appeared I have received a number of letters and papers which have caused me to think again on the subject of Armenians and their memories. The reason these have caused me to give further thought to the subject is that what was only a fleeting recollection of something nasty in the Turko-Armenian woodshed has now, in the light of the information I have been sent, turned into a spectre of hideous aspect and monstrous size.

The fleeting recollection led me to observe that, although I did not know whether the Turks had committed atrocities against the Armenians during the First World War, I would not—given the bits of Turkish history I did remember—be surprised. But it seems that I laboured in the shadow of ignorance, and the ignorance was of what a correspondent calls "one of the vilest crimes of the century".

That, considering the competition, is a claim of some audacity; to be one of the vilest crimes of the century, it would have to stand comparison with the massacres and exterminations of Hitler, Stalin, Mao Tse-tung and Pol Pot, together with such lesser but enthusiastic practitioners in the science and art of mass-murder as Tito and Franco. Yet the truth is that only Hitler, Stalin and Mao murdered more, in absolute numbers, than the Turks, and the Turks, measured by the ratio of their victims to the total number in the group from which the victims were drawn, are second only to Hitler with the Jews of Germany and Occupied Europe. (By the final test, the proportion of a nation's entire population wiped out, the Cambodian killers leave all possible rivals behind, having accounted for at least 15 per cent of their country's people.)

Among the information I now have is a study by the admirable Minority Rights Group, called simply *The Armenians*. True, its section on the place of Armenians in the Soviet Union reads like one of those gushing articles in *Soviet Weekly* ("... Stalin ... rebuilt Armenia so that it would be a mecca for the Armenian diaspora all over the world ... the Leninist New Economic Policy provided a flexible framework within which the small shopkeeper and tradesman could make a modest living ... the distinguished Armenian architect Alexander Tamanian, Vice-President of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts, was sent from Moscow ... to plan the rebuilding of Erevan on modern lines, but with due regard for Armenian national tradition ... their underlying loyalty to and dependence on the Soviet Union is beyond doubt ..."), but the hard historical information the booklet contains makes reading as grim as any that has passed across my desk in a couple of decades' reading and writing on the subject of man's inhumanity to man.

First, the figures:

In the course of a quarter of a century—between 1895 and 1920—the Armenian race lost a million and a half persons by the gun or the bayonet, by deliberate starvation, and by privation and pestilence.

It began towards the end of the nineteenth century, when the Armenian Christian minority in the Ottoman Empire began to present a threat to his rule in the mind—he was almost certainly deranged—of Sultan Abdul Hamid. In 1895, Abdul let loose his dogs: some 300,000 Turkish Armenians were massacred in circumstances of the utmost frightfulness. The British consul was an eyewitness of one of the episodes, in which thousands of Armenians had taken refuge in the cathedral at Urfa, which was then set alight by the Turks:

The gallery beams and wooden framework soon caught fire, whereupon, blocking up the staircase leading to the gallery with ... inflammable materials, they left the mass of struggling human beings to become prey of the flames. During several hours the sickening odour of roasting flesh pervaded the town, and even today, two months and a half after the massacre, the smell of putrescent and charred remains in the church is unbearable.

Not long afterwards, across the border, the Russians turned on their own Armenians, crushing their institutions, including their church, and eventually staging massacres on the Turkish pattern if not scale. But it was only after the overthrow of Abdul's rule in 1908, and the triumph of the Young Turk movement, that Turkey moved towards a "final solution" for her Armenian "problem"; if the Sultan had chastised the Armenians with whips, his successors were to chastise them with scorpions, and soon after the outbreak of the First World War they began:

Turkish Armenians in the Ottoman army were disarmed and herded into labour battalions, where they were starved, beaten or machine-gunned. On 24 April, 1915, two hundred and fifty-four Armenian intellectuals were arrested and deported to the provinces of Ayash and Chankiri, where nearly all of them were murdered by the authorities.

Having thus disposed of those who might offer either physical or intellectual resistance, the Turks could proceed without obstruction:

In every town and village of Turkish Armenia and Asia Minor, the entire Armenian population was ordered out. The men were usually led away and shot down just outside their villages. A far worse fate awaited the women and children; they were forced to walk southward in huge convoys to the burning deserts of northern Syria. Few survived ... for months afterwards, the roads and tracks of Anatolia were littered with corpses and skeletons. ... There were variations on this pattern. In Trebizond, the local Armenians were embarked in boats, and thrown overboard when well out in the Black Sea. A number were dispatched by being hurled down the Kemakh Gorge, near Erzinjan.

Nor was that the end:

Those who survived the long journey south were herded into huge open-air concentration camps ... where they were starved and killed by sadistic guards. ... The Turks then used Armenian refugees as targets for bayonet practice. When the Ottoman army captured Baku in the autumn of 1918, 15,000 Armenians were butchered. ... As late as 1921, a British colonel in Erzerum found the Kemalists beating and starving Armenian captives to death.

The figures are impossible to estimate exactly; but there seems no doubt at all that 1,500,000 Armenians were exterminated during the First World War and the years immediately following it.

Ataturk, who was about as mad as Abdul, carried on the work of murder at first, but it gradually petered out, possibly because there were practically no more Armenians left to kill, and since then Armenian Turks have been on the whole free from the fear of murder. Yet the oppressions and restrictions from which they still suffer there are many and abominable: their religious activities are under constant harassment, their educational conditions and opportunities are severely limited, many of their cultural monuments have been destroyed—the whole pattern is tragically reminiscent of the position of Jews in the Soviet Union today.

It is wrong to murder Turkish diplomats in Australia because of Turkish crimes carried out in Turkey in 1915. Indeed, it would be wrong to murder Turkish diplomats in Australia because of Turkish crimes carried out in Australia today. But I began all this by expressing surprise, as well as sorrow, at the length and bitterness of Armenian memories, and from that position, at any rate, I now withdraw: after informing myself by reading the catalogue of cruelty from which they have suffered, it would no longer surprise me if their memories persisted for another century and more.

LONDON DIARY

Party time for Labour's most civil servant

The indestructible Emanuel Shinwell tripped lightly down the awkard stairs of a Fleet Street cellar bar yesterday, emerged like a diminutive genie of the lamp into the blaze of television lights and instantly demanded a large dram, which he attended to with considerable relish. At this point I shall remind you that Lord Shinwell will be 97 in October.

Our oldest practising politician had thrown the party to celebrate the publication of his autobiographical book, *Lead With The Left; My first ninety-six years*. He let it be known that his friend Lord Boothby, a mere callow youth of 80, would like to have come but did not think he could manage the stairs.

"What are you all doing here?" he asked impishly, sucking his generous measure of Buchanan Blend. He was immediately set upon by an earnest woman television reporter who asked him about Tom Driberg, a name which figured in yesterday's editions of *The Times* and the *Daily Mail*.

"Driberg? Never heard of him. Where is he?" parried the centenarian-to-be. "On the front page of the *Daily Mail*", persisted the electronic newsgatherer. "Did you say he was in hell?" said Shinwell. "Or did you say the *Daily Mail*? They're not the same thing, are they?"

Leading figures of all the main parties, except the Social Democrats, attended to pay tribute to this remarkable old man, always assumed to be a Scotsman but actually born in London's East End of Polish Jewish immigrant stock. Two ex-prime ministers promised to attend, and Lord Home actually turned up.

"This is a book where the political pugnacity comes through on almost every page. But it is diluted with humour and chivalry, and that is what makes Manny so civilized", said Lord Home in an elegant tribute.

"You would be surprised how nice these aristocrats really are", countered Manny. "When they are rude to each other in the House of Lords they do it with incredible politeness", adding that Lord Home was a model of civilized behaviour. The former Tory prime minister positively beamed.

Lord Shinwell was persuaded to discuss politics for the best part of a quarter of a minute. "If we failed in anything", he ruminated on a 77-year career in the service of the Labour Party, "it was not in the field of social services or social security. It was in the field of civilized behaviour."

Lurking in a corner behind Lords Cudlipp, Hill-Norton, Home, Peart and Glenamara, I found Manny's kid brother Maurice, a sprightly stripling of 76, the retired chairman of a Scottish insurance association. He revealed the secret of Shinwell longevity.

"Our father always told us that the key to long life was one glass of whisky a day, one cigar or pipe a day, and not more than one woman at a time."

The elder Shinwell closed with a nugget of advice for younger politicians. "Don't bother what the press say about you, as long as they mention you. Nothing is more humiliating than to open the papers in the morning and find they seem to have forgotten your existence."

Don't worry, Manny; there is no danger of that.

Open secret

While on the subject of Tom Driberg, I must say that the topic would not go away during Lord Shinwell's subterranean get-together. I found myself cross-examining Lord Paget of Northampton, who as Reginald Paget was Labour MP for the said town; Paget and his wife were close friends of Driberg.

Lord Paget thought it hilariously improbable that Driberg, who wore his homosexuality much as Oscar Wilde wore a green carnation, could ever have been any kind of mole, double agent, informer, or anything else short of a true Brit.

"It would have been absolutely impossible to blackmail Tom," Lord Paget told me. "He was so remarkably open about everything. His difficulty was in keeping his mouth shut.

"It is entirely possible that he had affairs, not only with Russian agents but with every other agent in sight. But he was so spectacularly indiscreet that I cannot imagine anyone in government, Whitehall or anywhere else ever letting Tom into a worthwhile secret he could give away."



Mirror image?

After my recent speculation that changes in the ownership of Fleet Street had increased the need for a national daily newspaper of the left, preferably one with broader appeal than the ailing *Morning Star*, I am glad to report that the trade union movement has been making some positive moves in that very direction.

The TUC has appointed Lord McCarthy, Fellow of Nuffield College and a lecturer in industrial relations, to head its £40,000 feasibility study into the launching of a Labour daily. Helping him will be John Dixey, an executive at *The Guardian*, Geoffrey Goodman, industrial editor of the *Daily Mirror*, and two retired *Mirror* executives, Percy Roberts and William McClelland.

Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, would like to see the project off the ground and on the streets later this year or early next year. He wants the paper to be "independent and objective" rather than have a blatantly left-wing label tied to its masthead. But it is at least likely to be different; trade unionists are not enamoured of the way their thoughts and actions are reported by the established media, although I am sure *The Times* is an honourable exception.

It is much too early to say what shape the paper will take; estimates of possible circulation being mooted in the TUC vary from 250,000 to six milion, and Murray will not commit himself beyond guessing that its style will lie somewhere between *The Times* and *The Sun*. Judging by the advisers that have been hired, I shall not be surprised if it bears at least a passing resemblance to the *Daily Mirror*.

Best-fed friend

There are still some bright spots in the country's moribund industrial scene. James Morrell, director of the Henley Centre for Forecasting (economic, not weather) was able to tell an assembly of pet food manufacturers this week that their sales would hold up well in 1981, and that long-term prospects were rosy.

You might not immediately guess his reasoning. Morrell calculates that mounting youth unemployment will lead to increased violence and crime, and that more people will therefore buy dogs for protection. Not only that, the human population in general is getting older and lonelier, and presumably will not find the warm and meaningful relationships it craves with goldfish or hamsters.

I learn from a separate analysis of the petfood industry issued yesterday that what they call "canned dog" sales were up 15 per cent by value in Britain last year and sales of so-called "canned cat" by a quarter. It seems monstrous that a supposedly animal-loving nation should spend almost £400m a year on these bestial products.

Don't bother to see Naples and die; see Eastbourne and Di instead. The Cremation Society in its monthly journal is advising members of two important events in July: the royal wedding and the society's annual conference at Eastbourne. "If you are coming from overseas", it suggests, "why not attend both?"

Alan Hamilton

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SYMPTOMS OF A POISONED PAST

The British security services have had notable successes but they have also been the victims of regular spy scandals since the war, and each new set of allegations has increased the sense of unease that the security establishment had become deeply and pervasively undermined by traitors within its walls. Ironically, the periodic exposure of this or that traitor could just as easily have been taken as reassurance that the system was coping well with the threats against it—and indeed that its basic excellence accounted for the fact that it was so often a main target for Soviet efforts to discredit it. However, the intelligence world is by its nature a prismatic one in which simple truths are overwhelmed by double meanings; where evidence is more elusive than supposition; where reputations built up meticulously over decades are lost in a moment's carelessness.

The Prime Minister today thus has no easy task in making a statement on the Hollis affair. One could not be escaped. The series of articles in the *Daily Mail*, coming so soon after the Blunt affair, were bound to raise the deepest disquiet; and *The Times* has itself given wider ventilation to the raw material.

Mr Pincher has not explicitly accused Sir Roger Hollis, the former Director General of the security service, of being a Soviet agent. He has, however, described an agonizing inquest on a flawed intake which treated Sir Roger as one of its suspects. That process could also be a reassuring one, by showing that an exhaustive inquiry would not exclude even the most senior man from suspicion, particularly since in such a rigidly compartmentalized system as the security service, certain things would be known only to a few top men. However, the inclusion of the top man in a genuine inquiry such as that which seems to have been conducted both within the service and then at the feet of Lord Trend could not have been staged as a matter of form. Unless the process was merely perfunctory and decorative, Sir Roger's past must have contained something to merit interrogation.

Mrs Thatcher's response to the Blunt affair was robust and refreshing, in contrast to the obfuscations handed out by her predecessors when matters of security—such as the Philby allegation—demanded parliamentary answers. Her task is more difficult today since, whereas she was able to confirm the darkest suspicions of Blunt, she now has to allay similar suspicions about Hollis in a way which convinces the public that this is not just one more cover-up. The succession of previous security scandals is still damaging to Britain's reputation as a reliable ally, more because of the cover-up they entailed than because of the loss to national security inflicted at the time. This treacherous disease seems to have had its roots in the prewar and wartime attitude towards the Soviet Union, when many of Stalin's sins were forgiven in the cause of the Alliance. Though the invasions of Hungary and Czechoslovakia have made it less likely that contemporary British generations can be so easily infected, contemptible pustules like Philby and Blunt still provide evidence of the old poisons now, through the passage of time, much weakened.

Mrs Thatcher today can reassure the country that the security services are aware of this disease and have shown a new determination both to root it out and to avoid abusing a natural and necessary reticence about their business. If she can also produce evidence of Sir Roger Hollis's integrity, rather than merely deny—however forcefully—that there was any evidence to the contrary, her statement will be complete.

CONTINUING THE AGE OF THE TRAIN

The railways are a national asset but a wasting one. Not even the chirpy selling efforts of Mr Jimmy Savile travelling first class can entirely remove the burdens of obsolescence, peak loads and the schizophrenia of having to provide a public service at a time of public austerity. British Rail has now for the first time assembled its needs into a coherent whole, including widespread electrification of main lines, improved London commuter services, more economical rural railways and a Channel tunnel. The objectives are unexceptional on both consumer and energy grounds. They deserve the fullest support from Government consistent with other demands of national good housekeeping.

The cost is nearly £5,700m over the next decade compared with £1,200m (£7,200m in 1980 prices) for the last great railway modernization plan in 1956. That is a lot of money; but it has been evident for at least a decade that without a greater infusion of capital—similar to that in Europe—the railways were doomed to decline, just as they were after years of wartime and postwar investment starvation a quarter of a century ago. It represents an annual rate of investment raised to £567m a year from the level presently proposed under the Government's investment ceiling of £306m and the level of £414m in British Rail's corporate plan to 1985.

It was hoped at the time that the previous modernization plan would enable British Rail to generate more of the cash needed for its own investment. There are many reasons why it did not, to do with nationalization, overmanning, and the obligations of providing a public service against often unfair competition. But one reason must also be the railways' apparent inability to adapt sufficiently quickly to change. That springs partly from its nature as a high fixed capital industry; and partly from attitudes which are in other respects commendable. Railwaymen (top management as well as engine drivers) tend to be men of conservative temperament, loyal and committed to the virtues they see embodied in the railway. They really believe in the railway; and that has usually meant the railway as it is, not as it could and ought to be.

A succession of failures to achieve targets set has bred a justified caution on the part of governments about putting more public money into the railways. A reduction of nearly 40,000 in manpower proposed in this plan for the next five years is just what was proposed five years ago and has fallen woefully short. Careful step-by-step monitoring of each individual proposal will be required and of unfolding performance against it. That is something recently developed with growing sophistication in the Department of Transport and at British Rail under Sir Peter Parker. It cannot be relaxed.

What is merited now is a broad strategic "yes" to the future railway, followed pretty quickly by a tactical "yes" to the fullest programme for main-line electrification that has already been vetted and approved by a joint BR/Government working party. Electrification would pave the way for private-sector finance in central railway investment, which the proposals BR now make for further separation of the "commercial" from the "social" railway would facilitate. It is also just the kind of work producing programme, investment oriented and export encouraging (for private industry as well as British Rail), that the economy needs in its present recessionary trough.

PLACATING THE SPANISH ARMED FORCES

It is now just over a month since the attempted coup d'état in Spain, but the events of the night of February 23 are continuing to cast a long shadow over the Spanish scene. The attempt showed an alarming degree of complicity, or at least sympathy, by the Army; and it showed the extent to which Spain's new-found democracy was dependent on the prestige of King Juan Carlos and the loyalty of a number of senior officers. There is an uneasy feeling that the same thing could happen again any day and that next time it might be successful. The feeling is enhanced by the activities of the military wing of ETA, the Basque terrorist organization, which for its own twisted reasons is doing all it can to provoke the armed forces. The cold-blooded murder of two army officers last week was clearly calculated to cause the greatest offence to the military.

That is the background to the new anti-terrorist measures announced by the government this week, and the King's appeal to senior officers to show restraint. Both King and government are having to tread carefully. They have to take firm action against ETA terrorism, and not only because of the justified indignation of the Army. But they are well aware that if they introduce far-reaching repressive measures of the sort which many military men would like—and which were used in the days of the Franco regime—they will undo all the good that has been done by government policy in recent years. Moderate Basque opinion, represented by the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), which heads the Basque regional government, would be alienated, and the hopes of finding a solution to the Basque problem through a status of autonomy within Spain would be seriously set back.

In an attempt to placate them the armed forces are to be associated with operations against terrorism. But their role is to be limited, consisting largely of control of the frontier with France, where terrorists frequently find refuge, to the indignation of the Spanish authorities. The overall command of terrorist operations will be in the hands of the Minister of the Interior, a civilian. At the same time, the Spanish Parliament is to be asked to tighten existing penal legislation, principally to enable action to be taken against people thought to be passing on information to ETA.

The first indications are that these measures will be accepted by the main parties in the Madrid Parliament. They have also received cautious support from Señor Garaikoechea, the chief minister of the Basque regional government, provided the government does not go further and declare a state of emergency in the Basque country. Neither Señor Saraikoechea nor the opposition parties in Madrid are enthusiastic about the measures, but they are all uncomfortably aware of the continuing threat from the armed forces, and the thought that all Spain's democratic freedoms could be swept away in a successful coup.

It is ominous the extent to which the armed forces have to be accommodated, and to which even a failed coup has influence on government policy. The authorities are even being cautious in taking action against those involved in the attempt. Charges have been brought against some senior generals, but the policy is to avoid anything which might be felt to humiliate the Army as a whole. In the key area of regional policy, where the government has attempted to meet local pressures by giving a degree of autonomy, to the concern of many rightist military men, the process is likely to be slowed down. Clearly the views of the Army have to be taken into account, even in post-Franco Spain. But Spain's civilian rulers will have to find their authority and confidence again if they are to reduce the role of the armed forces in the state to democratic proportions.

hird World progress

om Professor R. A. Weale

r. Melvyn Westlake's instructive ticle (March 18) on developing ggards and sprinters inevitably ntains simplifications which cause en his gloomy picture of the nondustrialized countries to look sier than it is.

The more important of the two ints that are not mentioned—one ing the potential amelioration to achieved by the implementation the Brandt report—relates to the uation within the countries themlves. With up to 80 per cent of eir populations being rural, such provements as they achieve pear to be concentrated predonantly in the urban regions. But s must mean that the gaps becen urban and rural regions thin agricultural countries are creasing, and that, as a result, the ricultural hare cannot catch the lustrial tortoise.

This is also partly reflected in statistics on literacy mentioned Mr Westlake who, incidentally, otes literacy scores relating to les only. Take Afghanistan. The imate for 1980 is 58.4 per cent terate males and 95.8 per cent men aged between 15 and 19 ars. The projection for the year 2000 is 35.5 and 89.5 per cent respectively. In Bangladesh the corresponding figures are 13 and 63.7 per cent for 1980, and 4 and 37.8 per cent for the year 2000. The data for "Democratic" Yemen are 4.9 and 76.4 per cent for 1980, and 0.7 and 7.1 per cent for 2000. Hope springs eternal.

Analogous arguments apply to rural and urban health services, with the latter vastly dominant over the former. It seems likely that the only successful basis for reducing poverty is by developing educational resources appropriate to those technologies that create wealth. As stressed in a recent Unesco document on education, this will not be achieved if the Third World merely apes the First.

Yours very truly,
R. A. WEALE,
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1.

Matters of interest

From Dr J. M. Finnis

Sir, Why does Mr Gerard Noel (March 18) so travesty the history of the church whose name his newspaper proclaims?

Benedict XIV did not declare it sinful "to reclaim anything but the exact amount of a loan". The very sentence in which he defined usury has no less than three qualifications overlooked by Mr Noel. And within the next four sentences that Pope not only identified two specific sorts of way in which money might rightly be put out on interest, but also approved (without any restrictive definition) as "totally just and legitimate" the extrinsic "titles" which, today as in 1745, are the only reasonable basis for a claim to interest on a loan. Those "extrinsic titles" concern the context in which the loan is made or repaid.

A genuine capital market, where interest rates are established by market factors, including the demand for and return on productive investment, expected inflation rates, differential risks, etc, affords a context in which interest can rightly be asked and paid on loans. That has made it easy to overlook the many other contexts (eg, contemporary African village life, but also some much closer to home) in which the old condemnation of usury remains valid. In those contexts it needs not to be rescinded by the Papacy or repealed by the "collective conscience", but to be vigorously applied.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. FINNIS,
University College, Oxford.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Doubt about Army scheme for jobless

From The Director of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations

Sir, We fully share your concerns about the social and economic costs of youth unemployment (Leading article, March 24). However the proposal to enable jobless young people to serve with the Army, which you strongly support, needs very careful consideration. On the basis of the information available, many voluntary organizations working with the young unemployed believe that there are important reasons why such a proposal should not be introduced.

First, it would appear that the Ministry of Defence is offering general military training for the majority of the thousand or so young unemployed people it would recruit rather than the chance to learn a trade. Not only would it be wrong to suggest to jobless teenagers that in joining the scheme they would be given opportunities to learn trades when most will undertake forms of military training, but a lack of relevant work experience flies in the face of the very considerable efforts that all those responsible for the special programmes for the young unemployed are making to improve the *quality* of those schemes.

Secondly, it is suggested that the Ministry of Defence's scheme should by wholly funded by the Manpower Services Commission (MSC). The estimated *per capita* cost of the scheme appears to be more than twice that of the average MSC youth opportunities programme placement. With an ever-increasing number of unemployed young people, is it right that the MSC should be expected to pay double for this very small minority of its clientele? Furthermore, this small minority would tend to exclude some of the most disadvantaged young unemployed, given that all recruits to the ministry's scheme would have to meet the Army's own selection criteria.

Thirdly, it is increasingly important that those taking part in the youth opportunities programme should be readily able to seek work and take up permanent jobs during their placements. The necessarily regimented life of the Army does not readily lend itself to such flexible arrangements.

The Ministry of Defence and the Armed Services already offer valuable and appropriate placements for some 400 young people, mainly in civilian establishments. Is it necessary to offer a new option, when the present avenues for people to join the Army are adequate?

The hope of the MSC's youth opportunities programme is that it can lead the way to a comprehensive education and training programme for all those young people who need it. Let us not be diverted from that course.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS HINTON,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.
March 25.

Degrees of sin

From Mr D. W. Granger

Sir, You report (March 19) that the President of the Methodist Conference condemns the arms trade as "the big sin" while categorizing adultery and pornography (and bullfighting—*sic*) as "comparatively small sins". While many of your readers would, no doubt, have a private view of great sins and small sins (those committed by others as compared with those to which we ourselves are prone?) it would be interesting to know the source of Dr Greet's authority for a pecking order.

"Thou shalt not kill" and "Thou shalt not commit adultery" are respectively the sixth and seventh commandments, being listed below not making graven images and keeping the sabbath day holy: yet Moses did not suggest that this indicated a relative order of importance, neither did Christ give us guidance on whether the poor in spirit are more or less blessed than the peacemakers.

Perhaps Dr Greet is saying that immoral activities carried on or condoned by the state must be seen as of greater significance than individual acts which cause only a limited amount of harm and misery. While this might accord with contemporary morality it is rather different from a church leader giving comfort to adulterers and pornographers by assuring them that their sins are only little ones.

Yours faithfully,
D. W. GRANGER,
48 Newland Park,
Hull,
North Humberside.
March 20.

The Hayman case

From Mr W. V. Morgan

Sir, Many of us will deplore any interest in paedophilia and pornography, and may think that the law should adequately protect society. Others may disagree.

But why does Mr Dickens think he has the right—especially under the protection of parliamentary privilege—publicly to blacken anyone's name? It is called scandalizing (and it does not matter whether the story is true or false). Why didn't he just press for an adequate explanation why proceedings were not taken in particular cases without naming names?

Yours faithfully,
W. V. MORGAN,
29 Conyers Road, SW16.
March 23.

Suspended sentences

From Miss D. E. C. Tomlin

Sir, The Reverend D. W. Dale's horror (March 21) at the banning of capital punishment in schools will be shared, not only by teachers. Some years ago, when I taught infants in a village school, I received a note from a mother: "Please may I have Elizabeth dead at 3 o'clock"

Yours faithfully,
D. E. C. TOMLIN,
135 Buckingham Road,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire.
March 21.

Bargaining with Civil Service pensions

From Mr John Willman

Sir, Your leader on the Civil Service pay dispute (March 25) seeks to construct a chimerical contract between the Government and its own employees based on the continuation of index-linked pensions in return for a "no-strike" agreement.

An initial reaction is to dismiss it as much the same sort of academic and totally impracticable exercise recently put forward by Professor Meade as the basis for an incomes policy for the new Social Democratic Party. More important, how does this airy-fairy scheme tie in with your own findings of Friday, March 20, that civil servants have substantially fallen behind people doing similar jobs in outside industry? Should not your editorials reflect the facts established by your own reporters?

The main reason for writing, however, is to point out that you have totally misrepresented the findings of the Scott inquiry on index-linked pensions. Far from finding that the value of an index-linked pension is "priceless", the Scott inquiry put forward suggestions for a means of valuing the indexing provision of the public service pensions guaranteed to almost six million workers.

But what your editorial does not say is that, far from suggesting that index-linked pensions were a privilege to be bestowed upon certain sections of the workforce, the Scott inquiry underlined the need for index-linking to be extended to all pensions. Protecting pensions from inflation should not merely be the reward for particularly loyal service to the country: it is the right thing to do to protect the living standards of those who have the least "industrial muscle" and who may be said to have contributed least to any inflationary situation.

It would be sad if the debate about index-linking of all pensions were to be swept under the carpet in an attempt to find an easy solution to the Civil Service pay dispute.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WILLMAN,
Eastcroft,
Luxted Road,
Downe,
Kent.
March 25.

Payment of benefits

From the General Secretary of the National Federation of Sub Postmasters

Sir, We also welcome, as do Age Concern and other interested national organizations, the government decision to allow pensioners to continue to collect their pensions weekly (*The Times*, March 23). A freedom of choice is certainly desirable and the federation, despite the threat to sub-postmasters' counter work, recognizes the pensioners' right to choose the direct credit to a bank account method.

Our concern on the effect which the government proposal for child benefits to be paid monthly in arrear will have on the viability of the sub-post office network is as strong as ever. These fears are endorsed by many national organizations, including the Conservative Women's National Advisory Committee and the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations.

The danger to the sub-post office network will not be completely removed if Government modifies its present stand, thereby allowing mothers the right to choose. Organized and individual public opinion is clearly in favour of the freedom of choice. Mothers are surely in a better position to decide whether their personal circumstances would be best served by weekly, monthly or quarterly payments.

What we advocate is that the status quo of weekly payment should still apply, with the option for mothers to state a preference for monthly payment in arrears.

Yours faithfully,
ALBAN MORGAN,
General Secretary,
National Federation of Sub-Postmasters,
Evelyn House,
Windlesham Gardens,
Shoreham-by-Sea,
West Sussex.
March 23.

Welsh-language television

From Mr Lionel Dunn

Sir, Professor Garnham (March 20) is misinformed about the nature of the independent television companies' commitment to the Welsh-language service on the fourth channel.

The particulars of the new independent television franchises were issued in January 1980, and applications were lodged with the Independent Broadcasting Authority in May. The franchises were offered on the basis of a subscription of between £70m and £80m from the companies for the new fourth channel. There was no mention of the all-Welsh channel and could not have been because the Government did not decide to adopt this policy until September.

Only in December 1980, when the new contracts were awarded, were the companies told about a subscription for the all-Welsh channel.

Professor Garnham can rest assured that no obligations towards an all-Welsh service, either moral or legal, exist. On the contrary, it could be said that the last-minute addition of financial requirements for a Welsh service disturbs the calculations on which the viability of the franchise requirements as a whole had been assessed.

It is not for the companies to take a view for or against an all-Welsh channel, only to express the belief that the additional financial burden should not be borne by them. This could be avoided, for instance, by exempting the full cost of the channel from the special tax paid to the Exchequer—the television levy.

The ITV companies do have a primary public duty to provide television broadcasting in their own regions. Professor Garnham must therefore recognize that there is something bizarre in the idea of Scottish Television, for example, subsidizing Welsh-language broadcasts rather than spending the money in Scotland, which has its own Gaelic-speaking minority. If he has difficulty in taking this point, he has only to ask himself how he would feel if, say, 5 per cent of his departmental budget at the Central London Polytechnic were deducted to help finance a department for the furtherance of Welsh-language studies in central Cardiff. Might not he, too, view such a prospect with some dismay?

Yours faithfully,
LIONEL DUNN, Acting General Secretary,
Independent Television Companies Association Limited,
Knighton House,
52-66 Mortimer Street, W1.
March 24.

Yorkshire's achievement

From Miss Dorothy Tutin

Sir, Having worked very happily for Yorkshire Television over a period of years, I am disturbed by the newspaper reports (March 20 in *The Times*) concerning the company.

If money cannot be found to extend the franchise it will be an artistic disaster.

The work Yorkshire Television has done in all fields has been so varied and wide-ranging, and particularly in the field of drama, where new and established writers have been encouraged and commissioned, new talent found in design and acting and a standard of production and direction has been achieved over a period of 12 years which few can match.

Yours faithfully,
DOROTHY TUTIN,
National Theatre,
South Bank, SE1.
March 24.

University cuts

From Professor A. Fröhlich, FRS

Sir, There is one aspect of the crisis in university finance which has not received the attention it deserves. This is the impact which the cuts, and the decisions which may follow them, could have on the future of the basic sciences in this country.

A brilliant young scientist, devoted to fundamental research and keen to teach and to stimulate others, has only one place where he can make his career—in the university sector. There is a danger that this road will be closed to him in future.

Staffing policy in universities has suffered from a succession of ill-considered and excessive governmental reactions, first pushing one way and then in exactly the opposite one. In the sixties we had very rapid expansion. In the seventies this was followed by sporadic, but often severe cutbacks, resulting in the freezing of vacant posts.

All this has already produced an abnormal age distribution and has, in recent years, restricted the inflow of highly gifted young researchers into the academic profession. If the present crisis leads on top of this to redundancies among this age group we shall end up with a missing generation of scientists.

Subjects, such as mathematics and the basic sciences, develop organically through a continuing succession of generations, each learning from its predecessors and then overtaking them. Both one's insight into the delicate nature of fundamental research, as well as the experience of history, teach one lesson: once this chain is broken, the effect will be very deep and long-lasting.

Yours faithfully,
A. FROHLICH, Professor of Mathematics in the University of London
King's College, Strand, WC2.

Penny-wise in India, too

From Professor David Morley

Sir, It is not only Heads of State who have been influenced by British education (letter, March 20).

A colleague and I have just attended in Hyderabad, India, a reunion meeting of 22 ex-students of the Institute of Child Health, London. Of these 21 are now heads of their own departments of paediatrics. Our present policy in respect of the fees for overseas students will make such an achievement for British medicine unlikely in the future.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MORLEY, Professor of Tropical Child Health, University of London,
Institute of Child Health,
30 Guildford Street, WC1.

Threat to historic view

From Mr Alec Clifton-Taylor

Sir, I had been hoping that somebody of influence would write to you about the threat to Beverley Minster, and now (March 23) Lord Kennet has done so. May I add my strong support?

I am one of those who has already written to Mr Heseltine on this subject. Beverley Minster is a finer church than many of our cathedrals, and the prospect from the south, which will soon figure in a television programme on the town, is one of the most precious church views in England. That this piece of land should be wilfully built over, when there are plenty of other vacant sites in the vicinity, seems scarcely conceivable. Astonishingly enough, the local council has shown itself to be apparently very little concerned about the preservation of the Minster's amenities.

But, as Lord Kennet says, this is not a local but a national question, and the rest of us *must* look to a national figure, the Secretary of State for the Environment, to give a lead. That is why, through the courtesy of your columns, I (like many others) implore Mr Heseltine to intervene, and with the utmost urgency, to prevent this appalling and, should it be allowed, irreversible *faux pas*.

Yours faithfully,
ALEC CLIFTON-TAYLOR,
15 Clareville Grove, SW7.
March 23.

Biggs abduction implications

From Mr C. G. J. Morse

Sir, Your report (March 25) of the abduction of Mr Ronald Biggs in Rio de Janeiro and his subsequent transportation to Barbados raises several grave issues. At the very least the British authorities should investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident before any decision on extradition proceedings is taken.

However, if your report is accurate, it is abundantly clear that it would be wholly inappropriate for the British authorities to attempt to extradite Mr Biggs from Barbados even if they were otherwise entitled to do so. An examination of the reported conduct of Mr Biggs's abductors is likely to reveal several serious criminal offences under Brazilian law and/or English law.

For the authorities to seek to condone and indeed to take advantage of such conduct would serve only to encourage the kind of international lawlessness which the majority of the world community is seeking to eradicate.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. J. MORSE,
Faculty of Laws,
University of London,
King's College,
Strand, WC2.
March 25.

Defence of Belize

From Mr Robert Atkins, MP for Preston, North (Conservative)

Sir, As one of a small all-party parliamentary delegation which recently visited the British Forces in Belize, perhaps I might be allowed to add a further point to the discussions about the colony's independence.

It became very clear to us that British troops are popular amongst Belizeans, chiefly of course for the security that they offer against the Guatemalan threat, but also for the leadership and assistance rendered in a variety of ways. Not least is the support for the local Belize Defence Force, particularly by way of instructors.

Since Belize is now the only remaining jungle training base open to the British Army, and since the direct cost of stationing our forces there is only approximately £5m—the balance of the overall cost of £26m per annum being wages, equipment, etc, which would have to be met anyway—does it not make sense to capitalize on the beneficent attitude of Belize's people, by regular supply of troops, weapons and logistics on favourable terms to the Belize Defence Force, thereby reassuring the Belizeans and ensuring a continuing facility for training our otherwise deficient troops?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT ATKINS,
House of Commons.
March 23.

From Mr N. M. Lee-Frampton

Sir, When the first report appeared, on March 12, of accord with Guatemala about Belize, my immediate reaction was to consider it as a splendid example of deterrence in action.

So often today the word "deterrence" is used solely with regard to nuclear weapons and strategy—and of course this is a gross mistake. The 1,600 troops, helicopters, Harriers and Royal Navy frigate have demonstrated the nature and effect of deterrence just as quietly and just as effectively as our Polaris armed nuclear submarines.

Success in such terms does not lend itself to popular acclaim: there is simply not the dramatic effect of an enemy vanquished on the battlefield or a city or country liberated and no doubt the troops themselves, while not minding the sun, might itch for just a little "action". But today, surely, the mark of success is not so much a battle honour as a tour of duty completed without a shot fired in anger.

Perhaps the Ministry of Defence will mention this aspect of modern defence in their forthcoming "campaign". I do hope they do not concentrate entirely upon nuclear weapons. If, after all, the intention is to provide some basic education about defence to the public then it seems to me just as important to explain the role of the sunbathing soldier in Belize as it is to explain the role of the card-playing sailor "somewhere under the sea".

Yours faithfully,
N. M. LEE-FRAMPTON, Director,
International Defence Education Association,
3 Church Hill Cottages,
Tuddenham, Ipswich.
March 17.

Worlds apart

From Dr B. Wakefield

Sir, Mr Richard Law (March 19) may have heard of Galileo, but he does not appear to have heard of Einstein, or else he would know that it is not possible for two galaxies to move apart with a relative velocity of 1¼ times the velocity of light, even though both may be receding from us in opposite directions with velocities of five-eighths times the velocity of light relative to us.

Because clocks on the receding galaxies run slower than ours, an observer on one galaxy would judge that the other is receding from him at only about nine-tenths the velocity of light.

Yours faithfully,
B. WAKEFIELD,
1 St Peters Close,
Charsfield,
Woodbridge, Suffolk.
March 20.

Telecomic English

From Mr Harold Glover

Sir, I have recently received—from Cambridge, of all places—my domestic telephone account.

It quotes the meter readings for the beginning and end of the quarter and shows the difference between them in a column headed "Usage".

Oh Buzby! Oh Partridge! Oh Fowler!

Yours faithfully,
H. GLOVER,
Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1.
March 23.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 25: The Queen arrived at Ashford Railway Station this morning and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Kent (Major the Lord Astor of Hever).

The Queen then visited the Intelligence Centre at Templer Barracks and was received upon arrival by the Colonel Commandant of the Intelligence Corps (General Sir Michael Gow).

After touring the Centre (Director, Brigadier B. A. H. Parritt), Her Majesty honoured the Colonel Commandant with her presence at luncheon in the Officers' Mess.

This afternoon The Queen visited Leeds Castle, Kent.

Having been received by the Chairman of the Leeds Castle Foundation (the Lord Geoffrey-Lloyd), Her Majesty met representatives of handicapped and disabled organizations, and toured the Castle.

Lady Abel Smith, Mr William Heseltine, Rear-Admiral Leslie Townsend and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Maclean (Lord Chamberlain) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the departure of The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and bade farewell to The President on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE

March 25: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited Trinity Hospice (formerly The Hostel of God), Clapham.

The Lady Jean Rankin and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 25: The Duke of Gloucester today attended the Golden Jubilee Luncheon given by the Council of PIRA, the Research Association for the Paper and Board, Printing and Packaging Industries, at the Stationers' Hall, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

Birthdays today

Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, 76; Mr Pierre Boulez, 56; Sir Arthur Bruce, 86; Miss Kyung-wha Chung, 33; Mr W. J. Edrich, 65; Lord Fletcher, 78; Miss Elizabeth Jane Howard, 58; Sir Bernard Katz, 70; Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, 67; Dr Kenneth Mellanby, 73; Sir Leslie Melville, 79; Sir Sidney Ridley, 79; Mr Tennessee Williams, 70.

Orkney visit

King Olav of Norway is to visit Orkney on May 10 and will attend morning service in St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H. Bett and Miss A. Chorley

The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Commander and Mrs R. T. Bett, of Paxtons, East Lavant, Sussex, and Asya, daughter of the Hon Patrick Chorley, of 7 Chalcot Crescent, London, NW1, and Countess Alexander Schouvaloff, of 59 Lyndhurst Grove, London, SE15.

Mr O. H. Baines and Miss A. M. S. Crawford

The engagement is announced between Oliver, youngest son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. Baines, DSO, and Mrs Baines, of Penselwood, Somerset, and Anna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Crawford, of Clifton, Bristol.

Mr J. C. C. Ferguson and Miss S. A. Shirley

The engagement is announced between John Charles Corry, son of Mr and Mrs G. P. Ferguson, of Campers Lamberhurst, Kent, and Susan Alison, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs K. W. P. Shirley, of The Beeches, Mayfield Avenue, Orpington, Kent.

Mr A. I. McArthur and Miss N. R. Payne

The engagement is announced between Alastair, younger son of Mr and Mrs John McArthur, of Strathclyde, Alexandra, New Zealand, and Nichola, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs James Payne, of Rickling Hall, Essex.

Mr J. L. Tilney and Miss A. Catchpole

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. Tilney, of Orford, Suffolk, and Amanda, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Catchpole of Highfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Mr M. Wagner and Miss N. Campbell-Tiech

The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of Sir Anthony and Lady Wagner, of Chelsea Square, SW3, and Nicol, only daughter of Dr Paul Campbell-Tiech, of Geneva, and Lady Ponsonby of Shulbrede, of Morpeth Mansions, SW1.

Mr C. Blackwell and Miss P. Fitzgerald-Moore

The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Blackwell, of Trowan Farm, Crieff, Perthshire, and Penelope, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Fitzgerald-Moore, of The Mill House, Kennington, near Ashford, Kent.

Mr S. Kershaw and Miss C. M. Blake

The engagement is announced between Stephen Kershaw, of Gundawanna Molong, NSW, Australia, and Celia, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. C. Blake, of The Paddocks, Christleton, Chester.

Mr G. P. A. S. Twist and Miss C. M. Beanland

The engagement is announced between Patrick, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. E. S. Twist, of Providence House, Rous Lench, Worcestershire, and Melisse, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. H. H. Beanland, of The Manor Cottage, Ardens Grafton, Warwickshire.

Marriage

Mr N. M. R. James and Miss N. D. Hemsworth

The marriage took place in Northamptonshire on March 21, 1981, between Mr Mark James, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Nicholas James, of Skipness, Argyll, and Miss Nichola Hemsworth, second daughter of Mr John K. Hemsworth, of Castleton, North Yorkshire, and Mrs Diana Hemsworth, of Wicken, Northamptonshire.

Luncheon

Pira

The Duke of Gloucester was the guest of honour at a luncheon held at Stationers' Hall yesterday to mark the golden jubilee of Pira, the research association for the paper and board, printing and packaging industries. Mr W. D. Hoath, chairman of council, presided.

Dinners

Speaker

The Speaker gave a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday in honour of Mr William F. Patient. Other guests were:



The Hon George Younger, MP, Mr John Smith, MP, Mr Charles Irving, MP, Mr Fergus Montgomery, MP, Mrs Y. Attivate, Mr K. Balzer, Mrs F. Bergomi, Mr C. C. Berlin, Mr H. Bordewijk, Mr I. Bosson, Mr D. Brownhill, Dr M. Caniner, Mr C. Charbonnier, Mr S. Conway, Mrs P. Covell, Mr M. Dauman, Mr H. de Groot, Mr M. Derampe, Mr H. Doetz, Mr P. Gay, Dr W. Glenz, Mr K. Goddard, Mr H. Goss, Mr M. Grotefuschen, Mr P. Haberstolz, Mr R. Halphen, Mr H. Hertsch, Mr J. Houston, Mr A. Hughes, Miss J. King, Mr A. Klarenberg, Mr Lanfranchini, Mr P. Laperrousaz, Mr A. K. Lucas, Mr M. Maddox, Dr R. Marchelli, Mr G. Milani, Dr H. Munting, Mr J. Murphy, Mr R. van Oosten, Mr R. Petrol, Mr H. Portier, Mr G. Pottier, Mr C. Reny, Mr R. Robinson, Mr H. Rumrecht, Mr D. Smith, Mr J. Smith, Mr M. Smith, Mr A. Urbanz, Mr R. Vaughan and Mr B. Waltig.

St George Dining Club

Mr Sydney Chapman, MP, was host at a dinner for members of the St George Dining Club given in the House of Commons yesterday. Mr William Whitelaw, Secretary of State for the Home Department, was the guest of honour. Mr Robert Brum, president of the Chipping Barnet Conservative Association, accompanied by Mrs Brum, presided. Mrs Chapman and Mrs Whitelaw were also present.

Scientific Instrument Makers' Company

The Scientific Instrument Makers' Company held their spring livery dinner at Scientific Instrument Makers' Hall last night. The Master, Mr R. H. Davies, and the Wardens, Mr S. S. Carlisle and Mr C. R. Jennings, received the guests. The principal guest and speaker was Sir John Charnley, Controller of Research and Development Establishments and Research, Ministry of Defence. Other guests included Professor G. Melvill Jones and the Masters of the Salters' and Spectacle Makers' Companies.

Reception

East European Trade Council

Lord Shackleton, chairman of the East European Trade Council, received the guests at a reception given at Claridge's hotel yesterday in honour of ambassadors from countries in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. Lord Trefgarne, Mr Peter Blaker, MP, and Mr Reginald Eyre, MP, were among others present.

Memorial service

Mr G. A. Loveday

The Lord Mayor was represented by Lord Mais, accompanied by Mr Sheriff David Inglefield, at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr George Arthur Loveday held at St Michael's, Cornhill, on Tuesday. The Rev John Scott, Chaplain to the Stock Exchange, officiated. Mr Mark Loveday (son) and Mr David LeRoy-Lewis read the lessons and Lord Aldington gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Loveday (widow), Mr and Mrs Peter Loveday (son and daughter-in-law), Mr and Mrs N. Young (stepdaughter), Mr and Mrs G. C. Hargrove (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs V. Hanbury-Tracy (sister-in-law), Mrs Jane Adamek, Lady Aldington, Mr Nigel Althaus, Mrs John Aspinwall, Mr David Back, Mr Simon Barnes, Mrs Barrington, Mr Ronald Bateman, Colonel Bolton, Lord Brabazon of Tara, Mr John Brewer, Mr Guy Bright, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Mr Giles Charrington, Mr P. Cherry, Sir Archibald Clowes, Mr Hugh Coults-Trotter, Mr Ian Cowper, Mr Kenneth Crabbe, Mr W. Dacombe, Sir Peter Daniell, Mr Aubrey Davis, Mrs Theresa Davis, Mr L. C. Dawnay, Mrs Driver, Mr Eric Dugdale, Mr Paul Eaton, Mr Charles Eglington, Mr Francis Everington, Mr Robert Fell, Mr Jeremy Fisher, Mr Henry France, Mr and Mrs Nicholas Goodison, Sir Thomas Gore Browne, Mr F. Haines, Mr James Dundas Hamilton, Mr Thomas Harvey, Mr David Heath, Mr Peter Hicks, Mr Alec Hill, Mr Christopher Holt, Mr Leonard Hoskin, Mr Alan Hurst-Brown, Mr Henry Illingworth, Mr David Innes, Mr Frank King, Sir John Kingsley, Mr Jeffrey Knight, Sir Christopher Larcom, Mr Richard Lawrence, Mr Julian Linton, Mr R. G. Lockhart, Mr John Littlewood, Mr Peter Lyster, Mr Dennis Martin, Mr Peter Mason, Mr Luke Meinertzhagen, Mr John Milln, Mr Peter Minchin, Mr Patrick Mitford-Slade, Mrs Norah Nicholls, Mr George Nissen, Mr Alan Norris, Mr Christopher Parsons, Mr Graham Pond, Mr John Powell, Mr Michael Punch, Mr Wilfred Ranizen, Sir Richard Rasch, Mr Michael Reed, Mr Gordon Richardson, Mr Charles Rickett, Mr Graham Rickell, Mr John Robertson, Mr John Rose, Mr Graham Ross Russell, Mrs B. Rowlands, Mr N. C. Selway, Mr David Sheppard-Cross, Mr Colin Smith, Mr David Starling, Mr Anthony Steel, Mr Peter Stevens, Mr Robin Stormonth-Darling, Mr Christopher Surtees, Mr P. Sussman, Mr Alan Taylor, Mr Charles Telfer, Mrs Andrew Thrall, Mr Andrew Tibbits, Sir John Tilney, Mr and Mrs Charles Tracy, Mr John Varian, Sir Charles Villiers, Mr H. D. Wade, Lord Wardington, Mr W. S. Wareham, Mr Horace West, Mr T. Whittaker, Mr Geoffrey White, Mr William Whitelaw, Mr John Wickham, Mr R. G. Wilkinson, Mr Peter Wilson, Mr and Mrs S. Wilson, Mr R. N. Woodhead and Mr Adolf Woolf.

Photograph by John Manning

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, entertaining his predecessor, Lord Ramsey of Canterbury, to tea at Lambeth Palace

Royal Ascot

The Royal Meeting at Ascot will take place on June 16, 17, 18 and 19. Applications for admission to the Royal Ascot Enclosure should be made to her Majesty's Representative, Ascot Office, St James's Palace, London, SW1, before the end of April. Applicants should apply only for members of their family, stating their full names and their ages if they are of 16-25 years. Children under 16 are not admitted except on the Friday, when adults with badges may bring children of 10-15 years, for whom no prior application need be made. New applicants will be sent a form to have signed by a sponsor whose name is already on the Royal Enclosure List. Visitors from overseas should apply to their ambassador or high commissioner. In the enclosure ladies will wear formal day dress with hats, and gentlemen morning dress or service dress.

Latest appointments

Mrs J. D. M. Jowitt to be a member of the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

Mr H. L. I. Runciman and Mr Charles Connell to be members of the board of the Scottish National Trust.

Latest wills

Lady Sitwell, of Towcester, Northamptonshire, wife of Sir Sacheverell Sitwell, the author, left estate valued at £60,406 net. She left all her correspondence and diaries to Lady Hesketh.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Chapman-Walker, Mrs Monica Featherston, of Ware, Hertfordshire £538,165

Heart of Christianity 'purged of schism'

By Clifford Longley
Religious affairs correspondent

The church exists wherever Christianity is believed and confessed, and not just in one of the existing bodies, the auxiliary Roman Catholic Bishop of Westminster, the Right Rev B. C. Butler, said in Westminster Abbey yesterday.

His remarks were appreciated by Anglicans as an implicit and authoritative rejection of the Roman Catholic Church's traditional view of itself as "the one true church", excluding all others.

Bishop Butler, a leading Roman Catholic theological expert, was giving the third of a series of lectures on church unity which was initiated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, two weeks ago.

Yesterday's address contained no reference to Dr Runcie's new approach to Anglican-Roman Catholic relations, being concerned with the general subject of "the church as communion". Although Bishop Butler emphasized that it was "distressing beyond measure" that there was not one "visible, united, visible and public church, but many".

It was an epoch-making development that nearly all the main Christian bodies were now committed to the quest for unity, and that therefore "the heart of Christianity has been purged of schism".

He said the idea of the church as a "community expressive of communion", though the criterion of authenticity, may have been concentrated on too exclusively in the West. "For too many people, if the church is not merely the local building of brick or stone in which Christians worship, it is an organization and a bureaucracy all too similar to the secular state."

Today's engagements

The Duke of Gloucester attends dinner given by Masons Company, Mansion House, 7.25.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends recital in aid of MIND, Kensington Town Hall, 7.25.

The Duchess of Kent presents Facelift Awards for architects and student, Royal Institute of British Architects, 12.10.

Memorial services: Brigadier D. L. Powell-Jones, St James's, Piccadilly, noon; Mr C. Bowdler Henry, St Marylebone Parish Church, 2.30.

Sculptors of the 19th century gaining favour

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The sale of sculpture at Sotheby's Belgravia yesterday underlined the extent to which nineteenth-century French and English academic sculptors are now being seriously appreciated by art historians; two years ago they would have been bought, almost exclusively, by rich interior decorators.

A pair of bronze torchères, some six foot high, in the form of scantily dressed classical ladies holding torches aloft, by the Belle Epoque's favourite sculptor, Albert Ernest Carrier-Belleuse, went for £19,000 (estimate £12,000 to £16,000) to an American buyer. Even more of a surprise was £6,200 (estimate £1,500 to £3,000) for a large gilt-bronze and marble bust of a Japanese girl by Emile Andrée.

From the other end of the century, probably the second quarter, came a life-size gilt bronze bust of a "Bacchante" modelled by Joseph-Charles Marin, life size, that is, for the human model from which the bacchante's image is derived. It made £6,000 (estimate £6,000 to £9,000).

While the French sculptors secured the top prices, the British academics were by no means out of the picture. Jeremy Cooper paid £3,000 (estimate £500 to £800) for a bronze group by Lord Leighton of an "Athlete wrestling with a python". It is 23.7 cm high; only a year ago a larger cast of the same subject was sold at Belgravia for only £800.

At Christie's a silver sale brought £352,890, with 22 per cent unsold. A set of four Queen Anne candlesticks (64oz) went to Koopman at £16,500 (estimate £12,000 to £15,000).

OBITUARY

MARK DONSKOI

Distinguished Russian film maker

Mark Donskoi, whose death at the age of 80 was reported from Moscow on March 24, was the most distinguished Russian film-maker of the generation to emerge immediately after the heroic generation of silent masters, Eisenstein, Pudovkin and Dovzhenko—those who first made their mark in the sound cinema.

He was born in Odessa, served in the Red Army from 1917 to 1920, and seemed destined for medicine, making a particular study of psychology. But then he turned instead to law, and qualified and practised as a lawyer as well as writing many scholarly articles on obscure points of jurisprudence. He also had literary ambitions, and through writing plays and film scenarios he gradually found himself attracted to the cinema.

In 1925 he went to Moscow and enrolled in Eisenstein's classes; he also began a humble apprenticeship in films as an assistant editor. In 1927 he made his first film, a short called *Life*, and in 1928 his first feature, *In the Big City*. He did not achieve major success and fame, however, until 1938, when he wrote and directed *The Childhood of Maxim Gorky*, based on Gorky's autobiographical writings.

This had an instant and world wide success, and led on immediately to a second film drawn from the same material, *My Apprenticeship* (1939); and a third, *My Universities* (1940). These, which became known simply as "The Gorky Trilogy", were the first films really to combine high artistic quality with adherence to the vaguely populist tenets of Socialist Realism, then ascendent in Russia. Despite Donskoi's highly sophisticated educational an literary background, the seemed to be the direct expre sion of a simple man addressin himself to a vast general publi in terms which no one shoul have any difficulty understan ing.

On closer inspection, c course, the subtle architectur of the first two films as lea (which are in effect one lon continuous movement) become evident, with its intricate use c visual leitmotif and a minutel worked-out pattern of sound and words to convey th slightest emotional fluctuation in Gorky's slow progress to wards maturity. The third film loses a little in concentration and direction (perhaps parti because the central character c the old grandmother, superbl played by Massalitinova, has b that point vanished from th scene), but the trilogy neverthe less seems exempt from change in fashion, and has shown itsel one of the most durable work of the Soviet sound cinema.

The trilogy was Donskoi masterwork, but throughout th rest of his career he was ab to capture again, at least moments, something of i richly human, delicately poeti and as we might say Word worthian, quality. He was pa ticularly good with childre mothers and Gorky, and the recur, variously combined, his best later films, such *The Rainbow* (1944); *The V lage Teacher* (1947); his ve sion of Gorky's *Mother* (195 previously filmed silent l Dovzhenko; *Thomas Gordeye* (1960); and finally his diptyc *A Mother's Heart* and *Mother's Devotion* (1966/67 His last film, *Nadyezhda*, w made in 1973.

MR VICTOR SOANES

Our Chess Correspondent writes:

Victor James Richard Soanes, who died on March 21 in a Norwich hospital at the age of 72, was one of the finest and most energetic organizers and administrators of chess events this country has ever had. Himself a strong player in his youth—he got as far as the finals of the British Boys' Championship in 1926 where the eventual winner, the late C.H.O'D. Alexander, beat him after a hard struggle—cares of business and later on a concentration on chess organizational matters caused him to abandon any real attempt to progress as a player.

But he never completely gave up playing, being in the earlier half of his life a stout supporter of Lancastrian chess and an active member of the Liverpool Chess Club. After the war he came South and was an Essex County player for many years.

It was, though, as an org nizer and enthusiastic advoca of the expansion and furthe ance of British chess, both na ionally and internationally, th his skill and enterprise mad a big contribution to the nota ble advance we have achieve in recent years. He was pres dent of the British Chess Fe eration from 1961 to 1964 an an active and most capabl chairman of two important com mittees, the Junior and th Congress. A trustee of the Pe manent Invested Fund of th British Chess Federation h was also trustee of the Britis Chess Educational Fund and the Permanent Fund of th World Chess Federation.

Those of us who worked wi him—he assisted me, for e ample, as my counsellor some of the World Chess Fed ration Congresses—can testi to the pleasure he gained o of furthering the cause British chess. In this respe in particular, he will be mu missed.

MRS Q. D. LEAVIS

Boris Ford writes:

I am sure very many of your readers will have welcomed your sympathetic obituary of Mrs Q. D. Leavis. She was undoubtedly a most distinguished literary critic, and it is a great loss that severe ill health and long years of financial worry, combined with the labour of getting *Scrutiny* to the printer, should have enabled her to publish comparatively little independent work. It was a great pleasure to be able to publish her long essay "The Englishness of the English Novel" in *New Universities Quarterly* just before her death: this essay (originally a lecture at the last Cheltenham Festival) has an astonishing breadth and penetration, and it is striking also for its frequent references to European fiction.

My main reason for writing is to supplement your comments on Mrs Leavis's collaboration with her husband, which was the major fact of her life as a writer. To the works you mention should, of course, be added their joint work on Dickens. But what will not be known to many is that Mrs Leavis was a major collaborator in a number of books attributed to F. R. Leavis alone. In a letter written only a few months ago she wrote, surprisingly and quite feelingly, about being "staggered" when she realized she was not to be credited as co-author of *Culture and Environment*; and also about havin been "pushed out of *The Grea Tradition*, which was my under taking, and great parts of which besides all the first chapter and all the footnotes, I wrote personally". And she added tha "the whole subject of ou careers and work is too painfu for me to review at present"

Mrs Leavis could be a ver severe critic, and she did no exempt her husband, as he him self often remarked wrily. Fo others, including most of he former close colleagues, the criticism was not only severe it was also, alas, wounding. I, who many years ago had received a card in which Mrs Leavis informed Mr Ford that he would no longer be accepted as a visitor to her house (which meant that I had to meet F. R. Leavis on the sly!), found it intriguing to re-establish a correspondence with her which continued to be somewhat tart, but which mainly suggested to me that, busy though she now was with new literary tasks, she could never reconcile herself to the lack of formal recognition, which an established teaching post and a long list of publications would certainly have brought her.

She fought ceaselessly and even fiercely for recognition for her husband. I wish she could have accepted, even if not easily admitting it, that a great measure of recognition had been accorded to her work too.

Law Report March 25 1981 — Chancery Division

Release of trustee in bankruptcy is annulled

In re Munro and Rowe; Singer v Trustee in Bankruptcy
Before Mr Justice Walton
[Judgment delivered March 23]

His Lordship annulled a release granted by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to Mr G. A. Auger from his position as trustee in bankruptcy of Mr Donald Edward Munro and Mr Lionel Rowe, lately practising in partnership as solicitors under the title of Donald Munro, Tudor & Rowe, on the ground that in serving notice of his intention to seek his release, Mr Auger had sent the required notice of his intention not to the applicant, Mr David Mortimer Singer, at the address given in his proof of debt, but addressed to Mr Singer c/o his solicitors.

Mr D. G. M. Marks for Mr Singer. Mr Auger in person.

HIS LORDSHIP said it was an unusual application. Mr Singer, a creditor in the bankruptcy of Donald Edward Munro and Lionel Rowe, asked that the Secretary of State's decision to release Mr Auger from his office as trustee of the property of the bankrupts be revoked. Mr Singer, whose address at all material times had been at Vieux Cagnes, in France, had an intimate relationship with the firm in the sense that all his finances were in some way looked after or bound up with it.

Originally the trustee in bankruptcy had taken the view that Mr Singer was largely indebted to the firm, whereas, as was now known, the firm was very largely indebted to him. Part of the blame for that was due to the fact that the firm had not kept the proper records which a reputable firm would have kept. That probably put the trustee on the wrong track, so that, though the bankruptcy took place in 1971, it was not until 1978 that the trustee finally threw in his hand and admitted Mr Singer's proof in the sum of £79,000 odd. An order of Mr Justice Goulding which allowed that to be done also allowed Mr Singer to make additional claims. The revised sum now claimed was about £185,000.

The assets, however, were minimal and would not produce a dividend for creditors. Mr Singer's real hope of recovering any part of the money lay in the Law Society's compensation fund, which had already paid out £34,000, without prejudice to any other payments which might be made.

In order to show that there was no other basis than that the firm was thoroughly fraudulent, Mr Singer had to take proceedings in the Queen's Bench Division, to which the trustee was a party. Whether that was strictly necessary might be a matter of some dispute, since the Law Society—for all his Lordship knew quite properly—had over a period changed their stance in that regard.

However that might be, the trustee applied to the Department of Trade for his release under section 93 (1) of the Bankruptcy Act, 1914, and by rule 341 of the Bankruptcy Rules a trustee must give notice of his intention to seek his release to all creditors and to the debtor. The trustee had sworn an affidavit on August 4, 1980, stating that he had sent the required notices to the debtor and each creditor who had proved in the bankruptcy at the addresses given in their respective proofs.

In Mr Singer's case that statement was not true, since the notice was in fact addressed to Mr Singer, c/o his solicitors, Messrs Payne, Hicks, Beach & Co. and not to Vieux Cagnes. It was a common fallacy to suppose that solicitors had implied authority to receive notices on behalf of their clients. Had the trustee's affidavit stated what was now said on his behalf, namely, that the notice was sent to Mr Singer's solicitors, the court would have required a detailed explanation from them as to what was done with the notice and what were Mr Singer's reactions. But the court was now faced with the fact that part, and possibly a vital part, of the evidence on which the trustee had obtained his release was just not true.

What was the court to do? Section 93 (1) provided for an appeal to the High Court. Had the only consideration been the need for the trustee to continue as a party to the Queen's Bench action, the situation would not have demanded so drastic a remedy as the cancellation of his release. Under section 93 (5), as a result of the release, the Official Receiver would have stepped into his shoes, and would have done equally well as a party, particularly bearing in mind that no funds whatever were available in the bankruptcy, that nobody would provide money for defending the action, and that the trustee would not in fact seek to defend it.

Unfortunately, however, the matter did not end there. Section 9 (3) provided that an order of the Secretary of State releasing a trustee should discharge him from all liability in respect of any act done or default made by him in the administration of the affairs of the bankrupts, or otherwise in relation to his conduct as trustee, but that any such order might be revoked on proof that it was "obtained by fraud or by suppression or concealment of any material fact". Nobody suggested that the trustee had been guilty of fraud or had attempted to suppress or conceal material facts; but if the order of release were to stand, it would be impossible for Mr Singer to sue the trustee in respect of any matter in connexion with his dealings in the bankruptcy administration.

His Lordship knew only the barest outline of what had happened and he had not either practically, judicially or actually the slightest idea whether Mr Singer had any possible claim against the trustee. What was crystal clear was that the intention of section 93 (3), which seemed never to have been judicially construed, on its true construction was to wipe the slate clean so far as the trustee was concerned, so that thereafter he did not need to pay any thought to the previous course of his actions as trustee. That intention seemed proper and wholesome. It followed that if the release were allowed to stand Mr Singer would be deprived of any redress against the trustee in respect of the whole of his conduct in relation to Mr Singer's own proof of debt, and having regard to many factors which it was not necessary to go into, the trustee's attitude to Mr Singer's proof might well have been material in a number of respects.

It seemed therefore that in order to do justice the court must carry the fact that the release was improperly obtained to its logical conclusion and must annul the release granted by the Secretary of State and make an order for costs against the trustee.

Solicitors: Payne, Hicks, Beach & Co.

Parole Board need not give reasons

Payne v Lord Harris of Greenwich and Others

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Brightman

[Judgments delivered March 19]

The Criminal Justice Act, 1967, and the Local Review Committee Rules 1967 (SI 1967 No 1462) made thereunder, provide a comprehensive code governing the procedure for the release of a prisoner on licence before the expiry of his sentence: they do not require the Parole Board to tell a prisoner the reasons for not recommending his release on licence. Although the board are under a duty to act fairly, in accordance with the principles of natural justice, that duty does not extend to requiring them to give reasons for their decisions.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Roger John Payne, a prisoner in Maidstone Prison serving a life sentence for murder, from the refusal of Mr Justice McNeill to give him a declaration, inter alia, that he was entitled to make representations to the first defendant, Lord Harris of Greenwich, sued as representing the members of the Parole Board, and to the second defendant, Mr Peter Timms, sued as representing the members of the local review committee for Maidstone Prison, as to his case for release on licence, and that the defendants were first bound to acquaint him with the nature of the case for declining to recommend release when his sentence was last reviewed. The judge had also refused a declaration that the third defendant, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, was bound to give the plaintiff reasons for not complying with any recommendation of the Parole Board or the local review committee.

Mr David Turner-Samuels, QC, and Mr Brian Langstaff for the plaintiff; Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr John Laws for the defendants.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the plaintiff had sought to be released on licence ever since he had completed six years in prison, but he had never been granted a licence. His case had been reviewed from time to time. He had asked to be told the reasons for refusal. He wanted them to be able to prepare his representations for the next review. He had brought an action seeking a declaration that he was entitled to know the reasons. That claim had been rejected. He now appealed. It would have been more appropriate to proceed by judicial review, but the court would deal with the case.

The procedure was governed by sections 59 to 62 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1967, and the Local Review Committee Rules, 1967. The prisoner was interviewed by a member of the local review committee. At that interview he was to be given a reasonable opportunity to make any representation he wished to be considered by the committee. The committee member wrote a report including the representations by the prisoner, and the committee considered the report. They then made a report to the Home Secretary of the suitability of the prisoner for release on licence, and he then referred the matter to the *Parole Board*. The board advised the Home Secretary. If they did not recommend release on licence, that was the end of the matter until the case came up for a further review.

The statute and the rules formed a comprehensive code. They set out the procedure in such detail that nothing more was needed to supplement it. They set out the occasions when a man was entitled to make representations and when he was to be informed of reasons. In particular it was specifically provided in section 62(3) of the 1967 Act that if a prisoner was recalled he should be informed on his return to prison of the reasons for his recall. There was no corresponding provision when he was refused a licence. That went to show that the legislature did not think reasons were necessary.

No doubt it was the duty of all concerned to act fairly. Each case depended on its own circumstances. Sometimes fairness required that a man be told the substance of the case against him: see *R v Gaming Board for Great Britain, Ex parte Benaim and Khaida* ([1970] 2 QB 417). At other times it might not be necessary to have a hearing or tell the man the case against him because it must be obvious to him.

It had been submitted that in the case of a life sentence prisoner it was only fair that he should be given the reasons, at any rate in outline, why he was refused to be let out on licence. He would be better able to make adequate representations on the next occasion when his case was reviewed, and it would be beneficial to the man, as a human being, to be told the reasons for refusal.

There were equally strong submissions to the contrary. There was the practical difficulty of giving the reasons of a body of five members. There was a danger that the reasons would tend to become short and stereotyped rather than full and informative. In any case, in most cases the man would know the reasons himself.

In the end the problem was what public policy demanded should be done. It was more a matter for the Home Secretary than the courts. In the interests of the man himself, as a human being facing indefinite detention, it would be better for him to be told the reasons. In the interests of society at large, including the due administration of the parole system, it would be best not to give them, except in the rare case when the board itself thought it desirable to ask one of the members to interview the prisoner. That member might then think it appropriate to tell him.

It was not a case for a declaration. The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE SHAW, concurring, said that in a context in which the public interest might be put at risk by the inopportune release of a prisoner on licence, no constraints or pressures should weigh upon the Parole Board in coming to what must, in the end, be a decision in which expediency must be an important influence.

LORD JUSTICE BRIGHTMAN, delivered a concurring judgment.

The appeal was dismissed.

Leave to appeal was refused.

Solicitors: Gulland & Gulland, Maidstone; Treasury Solicitor.

Science report

Behaviour: Navigation by infrasounds

By the Staff of *Nature*

Recent laboratory experiments by Dr D. Quine and Dr M. Kreithen of Cornell University in the United States show what homing pigeons can hear and detect small changes in sounds that are far too low in pitch to be heard by humans. The ability to hear extremely low frequency "infrasounds" may be of special importance to the pigeon during its long homing flights.

Unlike the sounds which we can hear, infrasounds can travel great distances, often thousands of miles, without much attenuation (which increases with the square of the pitch of the sound).

As winds, thunder and weather fronts produce infrasounds, the birds may be able to listen to the approach of storms while they are still hundreds of miles away. Ocean waves, surf and large rivers also produce characteristic infrasounds and the bird may be able to check whether it is on course by listening to those far-off sounds and comparing them with the pattern of sounds it heard when it was at its home.

That the pigeon can hear infrasounds was demonstrated by "heartbeat conditioning", showing that a change in infrasound pitch could be made to cause a change in the bird's heartbeat rate.

The pigeons sat in a special sealed chamber between a pair of loudspeakers. Infrasounds were played continuously but their pitch was changed at random 10 times an hour. Each time the sound pitch was changed, the birds were given a mild electric shock to their feet. Soon the birds learnt that a change in the sound pitch meant that a shock was coming and their heartbeat rate was seen to speed up in anticipation of the shock.

The change in heartbeat rate when the sound changed showed that the birds were hearing the sounds.

To use infrasound in navigation, the birds would not only have to be able to hear the sound but also to tell which direction it was coming from. Normally, animals can do that by detecting the slight difference in the sound arriving at each ear. However, that mechanism would not work for infrasounds because they have such long wavelength that there would be almost no difference in the sounds over the tiny distance between the two ears.

The ability to hear small changes in infrasound pitch may, however, provide a novel mechanism for the birds to detect the direction of the infrasound source.

As the bird flies through the air there will be a different, small "Doppler" shift of pitch of the sound according to whether the bird is flying towards or away from the sound source. When it is flying towards the source it will hit the peaks of the sound wave more frequently, so the sound will appear to rise in pitch; when it is flying away from the sound source, the pitch will seem to fall.

The Cornell experimenters show that the pigeon is sensitive enough to changes in infrasound pitch to easily detect the Doppler shifts caused by changes in the direction of its flight.

The next step will be to see if the pigeon uses infrasound navigation under natural conditions when it is flying home.

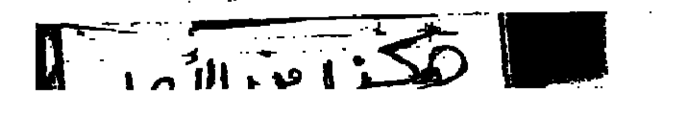
The navigation system may seem bizarre but it is only a few years since similar laboratory experiments showed what seemed an unbelievable ability of pigeons to detect magnetic fields, and it has been established that they use magnetic compass navigation through tiny "magnetic needles" in the brain and muscles.

Source: *Journal of Comparative Physiology* (vol 141, p 153) 1981.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, March 26, 1956

The plan for integration of Malta with Britain will undergo another crucial test when it comes before Parliament today. The plan has been recommended by a round-table conference of all the talents drawn from all the parties with the proviso that the Maltese people should demonstrate clearly and unmistakably that it corresponded to their wishes. The Maltese people in a referendum have given a somewhat equivocal expression of their views. Out of a total electorate of 150,000, some 67,000, that is under half, voted in favour. Of the rest only 20,000 voted against. The remainder abstained. The result was obtained largely because of the deliberate instructions of the Maltese opposition. In Britain the plan has, it appears, been accepted by the Opposition parties. The opinion of Parliament as a whole has yet to be ascertained



هكذا من الأصل

New Books

The lust for knowledge

Never at Rest
A Biography of Isaac Newton
By Richard Westfall
(Cambridge, £25)

The greatest genius of the English baroque age — may Christopher Wren forgive us, but I think, from his occasional, always generous and mollifying appearances in *Never at Rest*, that he would — was a highly neurotic young don at Trinity College, Cambridge, who became the most revolutionary mathematician in Europe at the age of 24, but declined to inform Europe, or even England, what had made him so until several years later. By the time he did, in *Principia* and lesser works, arousing amazement, controversy and enthusiasm, others were working the same field, he himself had also transformed the science of optics, was immersed in dangerous theology, secret alchemical studies, and disinclined to discuss mathematics or astronomy further. There was nothing cosy about Isaac Newton (1642-1727).

Which is perhaps the first reason why, of all British Worthies, we know least of all about him — "Nearer the gods", declared Halley, "no mortal may approach" — and why posterity clings so idly to the simplism popularized by Voltaire of the apple in the Lincolnshire orchard during the year of the Great Plague. We are not exactly beating a path to Woolsthorpe Manor, even now, despite its ownership by the National Trust, and most of us would be hard put to say exactly where it is. Perhaps the Trust should attempt a marketing tie-in with *Star Wars* and *The Empire Strikes Back.*

For the second reason, of course, is that much of Newton's work, unlike a play by Congreve or an orangery by Wren, is infernally hard to understand. Richard S. Westfall, in the most important life of Newton since 1855, gallantly goes ferreting for colourful anecdote and picturesque detail, but beyond the information that he owned two silver chamber-pots, had a passion for crimson hangings, little interest in art save in portraits of himself (numerous), and went to the opera but once in his life, considering it far too much of a good thing, Westfall can only confirm that a life of Newton is the life of an uncomfortable and secretive genius in a venal and compromised world — a philosopher, as he puts it, among placemen.

There *is* great diversity in *Never at Rest*, all nine hundred pages of it, but it springs less from biographical anecdote or the picturesque than from the range of Newton's interests over a long and restless life, first in the moribund swamp of Restoration Cambridge, and then in London during the Whig ascendancy between the "Glorious" Revolution and the death of George I. How very English that Queen Anne should have knighted him not for his work on the mechanics of motion, nor even for his painstaking supervision of the recoinage at the Mint, to which he was appointed in 1696, but for his genuine though modest services to the Whigs. That there was so much more to Isaac Newton than fluxional method and inverse-ratio proportion is the major discovery of this enormous book.

There is more than one way of reading and enjoying it, too. If, like me, you are irredeemably innumerate, there are considerable chunks in the first half over which, whilst acknowledging their crucial importance, you will have to glide in order to make any headway with the rest at all. It is not that Professor Westfall writes obscurely of quadratics and infinitesimal increments — on the contrary, his book is beautifully homogeneous, the experiments flow in and out of the main narrative, the illustrations are numerous and Westfall catches much of the excitement, even ecstasy, of Newton's breakthroughs — but simply that either you can follow a mathematical argument step by step or you cannot. It is a sad fact that a quarter of a century after "The Two Cultures", one of the few people who could have reviewed every aspect of this book with authority is the late Lord Snow.

For the rest of us, however, the rewards of perseverance and awed gliding are great: not only does Westfall recapitulate the experiments from time to time, he also shows that the pursuit of truth, combined with a genius for the organization of knowledge acquired (what today would be called "information-retrieval") characterized everything Newton undertook, from the solid mathematical centre to the speculative but not, in his hands, lunatic fringe. He was far from alone in his alchemical experiments — there was a kind of shared *samizdhat* in which Boyle, too, showed interest — but it is bizarre after all the busy logarithms, soaring graphs and the touching sketch of a great comet's path over King's College Chapel, to find him scribbling down thousands of words on the significance of the green lion, the golden net and the nitre of the wise.

As an Arian, Newton believed that every step taken by the Church since the fourth century was a step towards greed and idolatry and away from the one, true God. He was a Christian who deplored the Trinity and demoted Christ, and argued that if you could mathematicize philosophy and nature, then you could quantify God. This was a conviction so strongly felt and so shocking to the age that Newton took care how he broadcast it. For it fell with a very uncompromising thud between the polite Anglicanism, without theoretical profession of which no livelihood was possible for him in either University or State service, and the proto-atheism of Continental thinkers like



Descartes and Leibniz who considered Newton's notion of a creative and intelligent mechanic-God, a "vital spirit" who had set the switches going at the start, impossibly quaint.

Newton left Cambridge, where he had always been a *solitary figure*, in 1696. For the last thirty years of his life he was a masterly public servant, President of the Royal Society, and irascible Augustan grandee. More than three hundred pages cover this period — rather too many, I think, but they include the notorious quarrel with Leibniz over which had invented the calculus first. Westfall blames both equally, for ungenerosity and sins of omission. Tension informed Newton's entire character and career, and he suffered at least one complete breakdown, in 1693. Mercury poisoning has been suggested, but Westfall believes that, Newton's main work done, mental exhaustion prostrated him.

Sexuality is so conspicuous by its total absence from this massive biography that one feels positively vulgar suggesting that physical repression may have had something to do with it, but I bet it had. Not so much as a blush of speculation crosses the Professor's page, and he tells us that after no fewer than twenty years on this book — that's the trouble with writing about ace pioneers of information-retrieval — he felt only that Isaac Newton was receding farther and farther away from him. A certain American prosiness apart, however, Westfall has organized his enormous task beautifully and done our most elusive Worthy proud.

Michael Ratcliffe

Disappointed love for a lost leader

Tito: the story from inside
By Milovan Djilas
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £7.95)

Djilas loved Tito. He fought with him against the Nazis and worked with him to build a socialist Yugoslavia after the war, sharing the triumphs and the crimes of that period. He rose to high office at Tito's side. "If someone had asked me six months before the eruption of our antagonism whether I could conceive of a force that could separate me from Tito . . . I would have said no," he writes.

When the split came in 1954 it was not only deeply painful for both men but also a major event in Yugoslavia and outside, for it personified the split between ideals and reality which has plagued all communist parties in power. Djilas was horrified by the way in which the party was turning itself into a new class of privileged bureaucrats. Tito, increasingly monarchical in his royal palaces, saw the need for a strong central authority to hold together the quarrelling nationalities of Yugoslavia.

Djilas pressed his criticisms in the columns of the party paper. Tito at first encouraged him but then woke up to the dangers as the shafts struck nearer home. Djilas's ideas, he said, would lead to anarchy. Djilas was stripped of his power and resigned from the party, but he was never silenced, even by nine years in prison. He wrote relentlessly on, publishing abroad.

Now he has moved onto the most sensitive ground of all and written about Tito himself. "I cannot be impartial," he admits, for he is emotionally too close to his subject. His book is not a biography, nor even a detached assessment. It is more a document of the unresolved inner personal struggle of a man whose political life has been entirely dominated by Tito, first in friendship and then in complex, painful, ambivalent antagonism.

In parts it is very disparaging. Tito was a poor speaker, we are told. His education was inadequate and his knowledge superficial. He read little, could not spell and his Serbo-Croatian was faulty. In early life he was dismissed from one job after another. He dressed like a dandy, even in wartime, and had an appetite for luxury and power that was "antiquated and degrading". Worse still, he had "no talent as a military leader" and was excessively concerned for his own safety. (This of the man who led the partisans to ultimate victory in a rough and dangerous war against both Nazis and royalists.)

Nor is Tito allowed any credit for the political innovations which have set Yugoslavia apart from other communist states. "Not one of the great ideas of Yugoslav communism was his. I conceived the idea of self-government in 1950", writes Djilas, betraying, perhaps, a hint of jealousy.

However, Tito is gradually granted some qualities to explain his success. He was a "glittering political talent". He had a "shrewd and insatiable drive for power". He was "a politician of staggering proportions and of great independence". He deserves credit for things he did *not* do, in that he could have imposed a far more rigorous and stifling centralist model on Yugoslavia. But Djilas is not prepared to grant much. In the final judgement Tito created "no lasting spiritual or institutional forms". Indeed, he held back creative pressure for change and in his later years tried to turn the country back to "the simplistic, withered ideals of his youth: to party, to class, to Marxism, to indoctrination".

Could Tito have listened to Djilas instead of imprisoning him? He believed he was trying to protect the system which Djilas had helped set up. Djilas seems aware of this. Wracked by guilt for the horrors of the early days, in particular the infamous concentration camp at Goli Otok, where pro-Stalinists were tortured after the break with Moscow, he cries despairingly. *If only there had been freedom of information, if only it had been possible to debate openly . . . If only, if only . . . If only we had done things differently, so many problems would have been avoided.*

His own too, perhaps.

Richard Davy

Absolute equality: a great illusion

The Politics of Procrustes
By Antony Flew
(Maurice Temple Smith, £9.95)

The most crushing rebuttal of egalitarianism always seems to me to have been the Grand Inquisitor's observation in *The Gondoliers* that "when everyone is somebodee, then no one's anybody".

Professor Flew does not enlist the aid of Don Alhambra in his own tirade against egalitarian doctrines, although he does quote from an impressively catholic body of sources ranging from Aristides to Bob Dylan. His thesis, however, is the same: the pursuit of absolute equality is a futile and dangerous absurdity.

Flew regards the idea that equality is self-evidently and without qualification good as the great illusion of our epoch. His book is not simply a philosophical treatise, it is also a good old-fashioned piece of polemic attacking "the Guardian reading, professedly social democratic, usually social science trained establishment" which he sees as trying to impose their egalitarianism on the rest of us.

Several prevailing orthodoxies are shot down. Professor Rawls' theory that justice is synonymous with equality is rejected on the grounds that the law should not treat everyone exactly alike. The socialist ideal of producing a more equal society through social engineering is attacked for favouring an equality of misery and suggesting that "we are as interchangeable as ants". The principle of equal educational opportunities is dismissed because it would involve abolishing the upbringing of children in families in favour of a "universal system of comprehensive creches".

Some of Professor Flew's targets are a little unfair. One of his main bêtes noires, Mr Frank Field, for example, has argued in his new book, *Inequality in Britain*, that the Labour Party has put too much emphasis on equality as an end and not enough on it as a means towards creating greater liberty. There is a deep vein of compassion and often a commitment to diversity lying behind the socialist pursuit of equality which he chooses largely to ignore.

He is at his best when identifying the philosophical and political contradictions and impossibilities inherent in pure egalitarianism. This book is an interesting attempt at an intellectual justification for Thatcherism while at the same time proving the point, which Professor Flew obviously regards as of considerable importance, that philosophers can have something relevant to say about the world in which we live.

Ian Bradley

Liberty and the lynch mob come to Barchester

The Popes and European Revolution
By Owen Chadwick
(Clarendon : Oxford, £28)

At first sight this book is misnamed; it is page 252 before we reach the popes, page 445 before we come to the revolution. Its declared aim is to: *describe the difference made to the Papacy by the European Revolution of 1789-1815: or, in other words, what Catholicism was like before the deluge and what it was like after, what the continuity and what the differences.* Others have written excellent works on this theme, but this book is unique both in its focus and its method. The focus is different because a volume on the French eighteenth century is planned in the same series, and so Professor Chadwick confines himself to Italy and Spain, with occasional forays into Germany and Austria; surprisingly, perhaps, Hamlet without the prince works very well.

The method is different because the book relies less on narrative than on image and illustration. The popes are not really central to this book; what we are given is an evocation of two worlds, an account of what happens when liberty and the lynch mob come to Barchester. If space and the care lavished on its portrayal are anything to go by, Professor Chadwick's instincts are firmly with Barchester. Detail by detail, in example and vignette, he builds an unforgettable picture of the church of the old order, the world of pilgrimage and procession, of cultivated and absentee cathedral dignitaries and of holy fools like Benedict Joseph Labre, in perpetual circuit of the shrines of christendom, gentle even to the lice who devoured him. In this world brigands carouse and cook in sanctuary churches, and conscientious if harassed clergy think it their duty to help them escape the rigours of the law. It is a world in which miracle and magic consort side by side with the reformist ideals of saintly intellectuals like Muratori (whom Professor Chadwick admires) or tactless innovating bishops like Scipione de Ricci (whom Professor Chadwick admires not at all).

No one else could have given us so marvellous a picture; Professor Chadwick's eye for significant detail is unerring, his enjoyment of a good story manifest, his knowledge of primary and secondary sources in Italian, German and Spanish unrivalled. But the method has its defects. Among other sources he has drawn heavily on the journals and travellers tales of eighteenth-century Grand Tourists, famous and obscure, Catholic and Protestant — Henry Swinburne, Père Labat, Mrs Thrale, Dr Burney, Goethe himself. At times the evocation of the world of folk catholicism betrays these origins; we are led through a romantic *landscip*. Here a hermit tends a forest shrine, or a frenzied Capuchin, scourge in hand, excites his outdoor congregation to ecstasies of remorse; there a troop of beggars wait for doles beside a convent door. Over all plays the warm sunshine of Professor Chadwick's affectionate but distancing regard. We rarely come close enough to catch the spiritual anguish of the penitents, the misery of the beggar poverty, the sight of the open sore or the stench of the open sewer. Magnificent as the picture is, here and there it leans towards the picturesque.

Professor Chadwick acknowledges his debt to the materials collected in Cambridge by Lord Acton, who had planned a book on this same theme. There is a piquancy here, for this is the least Actonian of books. No hint of the historian as judge; here to understand all is to forgive all. Even in the central episode of the pre-revolution section of the book, the suppression of the Jesuits, there are no villains. Chadwick concedes that this was the nadir of papal power, a humiliation forced upon the church by the absolute monarchies of Europe. For its perpetrator, however, Clement XIV, the genial jokey Franciscan who anguished and procrastinated but in the end signed the order that his predecessor would have died rather than sign, Professor Chadwick has no condemnation. He evokes for us the tragedy of Ricci, the Jesuit General, a mild, saintly and submissive man whom Clement nevertheless, to placate the powers, imprisoned till his death. This monstrous injustice is portrayed with compassion, but without indignation. Elsewhere in his book Professor Chadwick tells of the famous preacher who denounced from his pulpit the Italian fashion of topless dresses as "lascivious, vile, immoral". His denunciations were sincere, yet *when he found it in the confessional he realized that fashions are odd, that the power of common custom is infectious, that though he must reproach the woman in his box he could not think it to be for her so heavy a sin.* For Professor Chadwick the historian is neither preacher nor judge, but a confessor, not a lion but a lamb.

The last quarter of the book, devoted to the revolution itself and to its aftermath, is more conventional in treatment. The familiar figures are here; Cardinal Chiaramonti (Pius VII) baptizing democracy in his famous Christmas sermon of 1797, Cardinal Ruffo (appropriately named) at the head of a rabble of 17,000 in Calabria, reconquering the south for Christ with pitchfork, flail and rope, Metternich "restoring" the papacy as a pillar of reaction in post-Napoleonic Europe. But the conclusions drawn from all this are perhaps more surprising. Professor Chadwick sees after 1815 a church stripped by calamity of much of its influence, but also purged of much of its infirmity. This earlier historians also have seen. But he views this renewal not simply as the triumph of Ultramontanism, a papal absolutism good or ghastly according to one's point of view. If the popes of the nineteenth century dwarfed all other bishops in importance, the church over which they presided had absorbed certain eighteenth-century ideals. The projected reforms of "Jansenist" reformers like Scipione de Ricci had seemed to end in a cul-de-sac, discredited by the common ground they shared with Revolution, overwhelmed in papalist reaction. In the early nineteenth century this world seemed to survive only in anachronisms like Archbishop Capecelatro of Toranto, "the most charming Archbishop of the Christian centuries", an aristocrat, scholar, collector, who disliked popular devotional excess, minimized the office of the pope, longed for a married clergy, frowned on religious orders but, like a true son of the Enlightenment, conformed in a changed world *observed men, and liked them, and had small wish to change them, and in extreme old age cheerfully submitted by request of Rome, and died at the age of ninety-two with a smile on his lips.*

Professor Chadwick discerns in the new order of the nineteenth century a victory, qualified but real, for the ideals of such men. Muratori and his like had deplored the anarchy of popular religion, had longed to see mass in the parish church at the centre of Christian life, and not the wonder-working shrine in some remote and holy place. This the nineteenth century secured. If men now knew that faith was fragile, and whole nations might reject it, they knew also the desire to strengthen and foster it. "All things", Professor Chadwick, tells us "were changed". Gone were the rivals to orderly, parish-centred worship. The hermit-shrines lay in ruins, the hermits dead or forgotten, the *virtus* evaporated as image or relic lay crushed under long-passed Jacobin boots. Church order, if less varied, was "more logical, more intelligible, less cluttered". The priest was no longer a mere mass-priest, more often a pastor. This, claims Professor Chadwick, surely rightly, was progress; the truth, the reformer's truth, would out in the end. Maybe the spirit of Lord Acton watches over this book after all.

Eamon Duffy

Quick Guide

Oxford American Dictionary (Oxford, £9.95). *OAD* is the latest graduate from the great *OED* word-factory in St Giles', and gives the Oxford stamp to the American language. It has more than 70,000 headwords, about as many as *COD*, including all those likely to be met with in everyday American speech, illustrative phrases and sentences, and a cheerful attitude of infallibility in such matters of usage as *data* and *hopefully*. It was edited by three American lexicographers and Oxford's own Joyce Hawkins of *OPD* (paperback) acting as their guardian angel. It will be a humongous help to Brits who wish not to appear schmos, and not to commit snafus, goofs, and bloopers in AmerEnglish.

Scotland: Archaeology and early history, by Graham and Anna Ritchie (Thames & Hudson, £10.50). Scotland is unusually rich in archaeology from standing stones to the splendours of Maes Howe. This volume in Glyn Daniel's series *Ancient Peoples and Places* briskly surveys and illustrates the field from the first hunters and fishermen of about 6000 BC to the union of the Picts and the Scots in AD 843.

Fiction

When Your Lover Leaves
By Susan Trott
(Gollancz, £7.95)
Odd Woman Out
By Wendy Simons
(Angus & Robertson, £5.95)
The Fate of Mary Rose
By Caroline Blackwood
(Cape, £5.95)
Other People
A Mystery Story
By Martin Amis
(Cape, £5.95)

Not a good week for cats, rapists, or adulterers. In three out of four of these new novels, adulterous liaisons end in tears or worse. Rapists fare little better. One is ignominiously hunted down by a gang of OAP vigilantes, another retired from the plot, while a third, well, who can be sure what happens to any of the characters in *Other People*? As for cats, they either disappear (*When Your Lover Leaves*), get run over (*Odd Woman Out*), or find themselves at the mercy of dedicated cat-haters (*The Fate of Mary Rose*). Only in the pages of the new Martin Amis can a cat walk with impunity, which is not at all what you'd expect from the writer who, so outraged felinophiles by his treatment of The Mandarin in *Dead Babies*.

When Your Lover Leaves and *Odd Woman Out* are both second novels by young women writers concerned with the same theme — a woman's feelings when her lover rejects her in favour of his wife. Both have heroines in their mid-thirties, whose different reactions to a common trauma neatly point up the differences between the societies they live in. Susan Trott's Ronda is a Californian poetess who makes ends meet by preparing wholesome vegetarian soups for local restaurants. In moments of extreme angst she tosses off a stanza or practises a little yoga, while her lover, the town mayor, plays the clarinet in bed (*Autumn Leaves*, since you ask). But it's running that really consoles Ronda. Not jogging, you understand, but a punishing fifty miles a week training schedule in preparation for her first marathon. Occasionally she succumbs to the little green devil and lobs a metaphorical grenade into the lap of her ex-lover or his wife. She also survives a cancer scare and an affair with a very rum fellow athlete, who might be the Marin County rapist but isn't, and may be about to retire into a monastery but doesn't. *When Your Lover Leaves* is as Californian as alfalfa, but I found it perceptive, funny and thoroughly endearing, for all its battiness.

Maria the New Zealand journalist in *Odd Woman Out* is an altogether tougher variety of The New Woman, and she needs to be, since her lover, political scientist Charles Hugo, is a very nasty piece of work. Unlike Miss Trott, Wendy Simons tries to throw light on all three corners of her version of the eternal triangle, and her concern is with the situation rather than just the characters involved. Charles's wife Hannah is an arty weaver, who only emerges from the shadows as the novel progresses. She is presented as a natural victim, pathetic in her attempts to befriend her husband's mistress, and ludicrous as she wards off the advances of a lecherous waterbed salesman. But there is nothing ineffectual about the action she finally takes to ensure that Charles and Maria don't ride off into the sunset together. Theirs is a classically sadomasochistic relationship, she being more powerfully attracted the clearer it becomes that he's just stringing her along, he scarcely bothering to conceal the pleasure he derives from tormenting the women who love him. *Odd Woman Out* is a highly moral tale in which happiness is reserved for the minor characters, Maria's cheery flatmate Bobbie and her former boyfriend Robert, who are brought together by their shared disapproval of her egotistical but self-destructive pursuit of Charles. It's an old, old story of course, but Miss Simons is a wickedly sharp observer of the excitement and the messiness of clandestine relationships, and she almost manages to persuade us that she is the first writer to discover that three into two won't go.

Caroline Blackwood and Martin Amis are both established writers with a decidedly black view of the world. *The Fate of Mary Rose* is a very nasty book indeed, which explores how a psychopathic historian and his loopy wife are affected by the sadistic murder of a local girl the same age as their daughter. The short answer is that they become madder and nastier, but I found little to admire and nothing to enjoy in this excursion into Highsmith territory. As the whole world now knows, Martin Amis's *Other People* is an opaque book, so I followed his suggestion to read it twice, confident that his hubris would be suitably punished. Alas, maddening though it is to admit it, the effort was worth while. A second reading reveals inconsistencies — why should the amnesiac heroine know the difference between a crow and a sparrow when she isn't even sure whether or not she has a mouth? — but the longer you spend in Mr Amis's hellish world, the more time you have to relax and to appreciate that, for all its savagery and obscurity, *Other People* is a very funny book. It's also occasionally over-written. The sentence "choirs of betrayal serenade his every thought" has a fine ring to it, but what does it mean? And what other author would dare write "the balcony puddles pinged with their space invaders from the sky, helplessly reflecting this new war of the worlds" when what we're actually being told is that it's raining? But there's neither doubt that the boy can write, nor that *Other People* is an achievement light years ahead of his earlier novels. It had me purring with pleasure.

John Nicholson



Stock Exchange Prices

Light profit taking

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 16. Dealings End, March 27. § Contango Day, March 30. Settlement Day, April 6

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

UNDATED

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
246	178	Brit & Comm	222	-1	17.9	5.5	6.1
339	228	Caledonia Inv	286	-2	17.9	6.2	..
208	112½	Fisher J	172	..	3.1	1.8	14.0
41	31	Jacobs J. I.	37½	-½	3.3	8.8	9.1
148	85½	Ocean Trans	147	..	10.7	5.5	17.6
138½	105	P & O 'Dfd'	123½	+1	10.0	7.2	8.5

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
113	39	Marler Estates	83	..	2.9	3.4	14.2
108	31	Mountleigh	82	..	4.3b	5.2	4.8
128	83	Mucklow A & J	125	..	5.6b	4.4	18.0
600	400	Municipal	600	..	10.7	1.8	20.6
190	115	North British	190	..	4.0	2.1	38.2
165¼	107	Peachey Prop	151	..	5.7	3.8	22.8
182	116	Prop & Rever	174	..	3.6	2.1	38.2
168	110	Prop Hldgs	166	..	4.4b	2.7	
205	90½	Prop Sec	205	..	2.6b	1.3	87.2
18	7	Raglan Prop	15	..	..	..	68.2
160	95	Regional	158	..	2.9	1.8	35.8
157	94	Do A	156	..	2.9	1.8	35.4
328	100	Rosehaugh	312	-5	3.0	1.0	13.3
252	117	Rush & Tomkins	245	+5	5.4	2.2	..
124	91¾	Scot Met Props	124	..	3.9b	3.1	34.4
155	93	Slough Ests	151	-1	3.6	2.4	25.5
365	234½	Stock Conv	345	-2	5.0	1.4	39.4
32	15¾	Town & City	31	-¼	0.0e	..	..
160	111	Trafford Park	156	..	9.3	5.9	19.3
340	205	Trust Secs	325	-2	..	..	..
25½	14	Webb J.	25½	..	0.8	2.0	14.2
26¼	21	Wereldhave	£21	..	125	5.9	12.1
70	27½	W'mster & City	70 ●	..	4.6	6.6	5.6

RUBBER

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
130	75	Barlow Hldgs	113	-1	4.3	3.8	..
555	305	Castlefield	460	..	8.6	1.9	..
57½	39½	Cons Plant	50	-½	3.5	7.0	..
158	115	Doranakande	160	..	4.3	2.7	..
938	627	Guthrie Corp	800	-25	42.9	5.4	..
232	153	Harrisons Malay	190	..	11.4	6.0	..
61½	45	Highlds & Low	53	+1	2.1	4.0	..
775	465	Hongkong	775	..	60.0	7.7	..
570	363	Killinghall	570	..	20.0	3.5	..
465	290	Ldn Sumatra	361 b	..	11.4b	3.2	..
130	68	Maledie	116	+2	3.2	2.8	..

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	138	Assam Frontier	139	..	14.3	7.2	..
485	350	Camellia Inv	430 ●	..	7.1	1.7	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	324	..	21.4	6.6	..
332	262	Moran	272	..	4.6f	1.7	..
158	103	Surmah Valley	103	..	3.2	3.1	..
221	132¾	Warren Plant	221	+1	14.3b	6.5	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	25	..	6.8	24.2	..
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33	..	500	15.2	..
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£24	..	146	6.1	8.9
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	215	-13	10.1	4.7	10.1
185	43	Milford Docks	140	+2	9.8	7.0	..
175	78	Nesco Inv	175	..	10.0	5.7	..
35	29½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£32½	..	500	15.4	..

● Ex dividend a Ex all. b Forecast dividend c Corrected price e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Bristol Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (†b)	£12
British Aerospace 50p Ord (150)	186-1
Cystic Fibrosis Res'ch Inv Tst £1 (£1)	117
Do 5% Deb 1986 (£100)	£69½
Espley-Tyas Prop Grp 25p Ord (75)	94
Exchequer 12½% 1990 (£95†)	£14¼-⅛
Exchequer 13¼% 'B' 1999 (†)	£92⅞-⅛
Lon Merchant Secs 7¼% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£38¼
Mid-Sussex Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (†)	£107½
Munton Bros 10p Ord (18)	21-½
New Darien Oil Trust 25p Ord (100)	96
Oil and Gas Production 2c Ord (42)	38
Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (‡)	£124¼-½
Sutton District Wtr 8% Red Pref 1986 († b)	£13
TR Energy 25p Ord (£1)	98
Treasury 12% 1986 († h)	£50⅞-¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Barker Dobson 'A' (2p)	May 29	2 prem
Broken Hill Props (473‡)	Apr 30	260 prem-5
IMI (48‡)	..	9 prem-½

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid b. £10 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £30 paid. i £15 paid.

هكذا من الأصل

Problem of industrial action with political ends, page 21

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS



■ **Stock markets**
FT Index 507.4, down 4.3
FT Gilts 69.81, down 0.27

■ **Sterling**
$2.2630, down 30 points
Index 100.6, unchanged

■ **Dollar**
Index 99.5, up 0.3
DM 2.0855, up 40 points

■ **Gold**
$528.50, down $12

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 12¾-12⅝
3 mth Euro $ 14[illegible]-14[illegible]
6 mth Euro $ 14[illegible]-14[illegible]

IN BRIEF

EEC refund of £276m for British regions

The European Community will transfer about £276m to Britain before the end of the month to help pay for special infrastructure investment programmes in five regions.

The payments, which come after last year's agreement to cut the United Kingdom's EEC budget burden, are being made in respect of Britain's 1980 contributions. They bring the level of refund so far received for last year to £644.6m or 80 per cent of the total amount to which Britain is entitled.

The regions which benefit from the transfer are Scotland, Yorkshire and Humberside, Northern Ireland, the North of England and South-West England. Roughly 40 per cent of the money will be spent on telecommunications projects, almost one-fifth on water and sewerage improvements.

£8m rights issue

Country and New Town Properties is raising £8m through a rights issue of one for two at 53p a share. British and Commonwealth Shipping is taking up its 40 per cent entitlement, and so is Mr Gerald Newton, chairman, for his 6.6 per cent stake. The balance of the issue, 8 million shares, is being underwritten by stockbrokers Rowe & Pitman. The money will help the group expand in North America and improve the European and United Kingdom portfolios.

Financial Editor page 21

British Gas office deal

British Gas has paid £24m for its Marble Arch, London office building. The property was jointly owned by Rank Organisation and Newarthill, through a Sir Robert McAlpine subsidiary. Rank will use its £11.4m profit to reduce its borrowings and Newarthill said it had received a large surplus on the deal.

$600m Sudan debt

Agreement on a $600m (£260m) debt rescheduling for Sudan is expected in two months. The five main international creditor banks, working on behalf of more than 100 other banks agreed outline terms for the package last October and the Sudanese authorities are now discussing the details.

Belgian bank rate

The Belgian National Bank has announced a one point increase of its discount rate to 13 per cent. The rate for current account and special advances was raised two points to 15 per cent.

Esso price rise

Further increases in petrol prices are on the way. Esso added an additional 2p a gallon from midnight last night and similar increases are expected from other companies.

Hoover plan rejected

The 23,000 shopfloor workers at Hoover's Cambuslang plant near Glasgow have rejected the company's latest plan to cut losses.

Wall Street high

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 1,015.22, up [illegible].09 on Wall Street yesterday its best level in over eight years. The $ = SDR exchange rate was 1.23423 while the £ = SDR rate was 0.545155.

Chancellor renews plea for single figure pay deals

By David Blake
Economics Editor

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday launched a new government drive to talk down the level of pay settlements with a call that they should be "in the middle of a single figure range" next year. Addressing the Commons Treasury select committee, Sir Geoffrey drew encouragement from the fact that people have "chosen lower pay settlements and higher growth," in recent months.

He called for a return to the experience of the 1950s when wage increases were low and came from expanding output, not inflation.

The call for pay restraint was coupled with a strong hint that it should be possible to cut interest rates further in the year ahead. Sir Geoffrey said that the "crucial" need to get interest rates down had played a big part in so many of this month's tough Budget decisions.

He showed considerable confidence in asserting that the recession would bottom out some time during the first half of this year, claiming that evidence to support this view was visible throughout the country.

The Chancellor's performance was generally far more assured than his earlier appearances before the committee. He strongly defended the Budget strategy, and gave warning that pumping in extra demand would have at best a short-term stimulatory effect on output.

The MPs who questioned him scored few points, though they did force him to admit that the Government was concerned about the way in which public spending cuts have hit capital investment rather than current expenditure. Work was under way to look at some of the issues which this raises, he said.

The Chancellor stressed his keenness to involve private capital in joint schemes with the public sector, as soon as they could be shown to be profitable. But he also called on nationalized industries to raise more of their own money. A 1 per cent reduction in costs could liberate an extra £300m for investment he said.

The Chancellor was at his most confident in rejecting the idea that setting a higher public borrowing limit for next year would have aided recovery. Doing this would have held up interest rates, which might have kept up the exchange rate, he argued.

This would have benefited consumers at the expense of industry, and his Budget had sought to switch some of the country's burden away from the corporate sector.

Because committee members found few inconsistencies in the Government's forecast of its spending and taxation, the Chancellor was able to use the session as an opportunity to put across his point of view more than he had on recent similar occasions.

He was clearly determined to get across the message that falling inflation must imply falling pay settlements and that by this time next year they should be down to the middle of the single figure range, though he refused to fix on any norm.

But this would seem to imply that the Government hopes that earnings will rise by about 5 to 6 per cent during the next pay round, which begins in summer. This would be slightly below the projected rate of inflation, though Government ministers hoped that in next year's Budget they might be able to cut taxes.

But the Chancellor warned against believing that North Sea oil would provide a new windfall for the economy in years to come.

He pointed out that the Government was already receiving £5,000m a year from the North Sea, yet it was still running a deficit of £10,500m.

[North Sea oil and gas production was worth £5,600m or 3 per cent of gross national product in 1980. It is projected to rise to £10,200m or 5 per cent Britain's gnp by 1984, the Treasury estimates.]

The Chancellor did not pretend that any strong recovery in the economy was likely over the next 12 months, but he did say that it was possible to be "too sceptical" about signs that the recession was bottoming out.

Union threat to disrupt bank cash deliveries

By Margareta Pagano
and Donald Macintyre

With the 24-hour Barclays Bank strike expected to start at 4.0 pm today, the prospect of further disruption in the banking industry heightened as union officials threatened the distribution of coins and banknotes from cash centres through selective industrial action by messengers.

The Banking Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) yesterday decided to ballot selected groups of messengers on whether they want to take action in support of the pay dispute involving 70,000 clerical staff.

The union's executive will meet tomorrow week to consider the next step in the light of both that ballot and a ballot of 7,000 clerical staff who are being asked if they will take part in the second stage of limited industrial action being planned by the union.

Around half of the 400 Barclays Bank computer staff at its Gloucester and Wythenshawe centres have voted to strike. They are at the hub of the bank's operations and control Barclaybanks—automated cash-dispensers—Barclaycard authorizations, and settlement of customers' accounts.

The effect on customers is still unclear, but Bifu said Barclaybanks may be shut if enough operators are called out. Otherwise, Barclaycard authorizations, will be lost, customer's accounts will not be updated and clearing will be halted for the 24-hour period.

Barclays admitted last night that the strike would cause internal disruption but that there would be minimal inconvenience to customers. The spokesman said the Barclaybanks could be stopped but the bank thought it unlikely. "It will be a 24-hour hiccup", he said.

Mr Nick Cowan, director of the Federation of London Clearing Bank Employers, said yesterday that the centres control Barclays' nationwide network. The strike would have more effect because the Bifu members are computer operators rather than the clerical employees who took action at Lloyds earlier this week.

Delays in clearing cheques could be up to two days, Barclay banks may be stopped and accounts would not be updated and this would create a backlog of work. But Mr Cowan added that the centres run on a 24-hour and seven-day week basis and should be operating normally within a day or two.

The Clearing Banks Union, which represents 93,000 members in the five clearing banks —has not instructed its members to cross Bifu picket lines but has left it to individuals to decide. Results of the union's ballot on industrial action will be known on Monday.

Bifu said it was "delighted" with the result of the 24-hour stoppage by clerical staff at the Lloyds computer centre at Samson House, Blackfriars, which ended on Tuesday night. Union officials claimed that "the bulk of cheques" had not been cleared during normal working hours. Lloyds management said, however, that about 1.1 million cheques had gone through normally.

Conditional go-ahead for Berisford's British Sugar bid

By Michael Prest
Commodities Correspondent

A renewed bid by S. & W. Berisford, the commodity trading group, for the British Sugar Corporation is possible after a Monopolies Commission ruling yesterday, the commission said that, although the merger might operate against the public interest, Berisford would be allowed to go ahead if it agreed to safeguards laid down by Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade.

The commission specified two conditions for the bid proceedings. One was that Berisford would have to cease trading sugar refined by Tate & Lyle, except where the sugar was bought for use in Berisford's or BSC's own products.

The second condition was that BSC must be kept as an independent subsidiary, and that Berisford must publish financial and other information about BSC equivalent to that produced by BSC at present.

Berisford said immediately after the announcement, made by Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, that its board has asked for a meeting with the Government to discuss plans for the disposal of the Government's own 24 per cent stake in BSC.

BSC shares gained 5p in after-hours trading to close at 290p, with about one million shares reportedly changing hands. But, despite the market's evident belief that a new bid was likely, Mr John Beckett, chief executive of BSC, said that he would await Berisford's next move.

It is understood, however, that BSC met last night with its professional advisers to consider defensive moves. Both BSC and Berisford feel that the conditions laid down by the commission do not present an obstacle to the bid. Berisford is believed to have told the commission that it would accept these restrictions.

Berisford's original £124m bid for BSC was made last May, and the reference to the commission came in June. At the end of 1980 the commission asked for a three-month extension, chiefly because of the complexity of the sugar market.

What primarily concerned the commission was that there is not, in its judgment, much competition in the supply of sugar to Britain. There are only two refiners; BSC, which handles beet and whose prices are basically governed by the EEC, and Tate & Lyle, a financially weaker company which processes cane sugar from Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific.

The commission did not accept Berisford's claim that its sugar importing activity as a trader would compete freely with sugar producing by BSC, should it own BSC, but felt that other sugar traders would import more to meet demand if BSC and Berisford tried to manipulate the market.

The main obstacle, however, was that Berisford has often handled a lot of Tate & Lyle sugar. The commission feared that a serious loss of competition could result from Berisford controlling BSC and trading Tate & Lyle sugar. This was the reason for the prohibition on trading Tate sugar.

Another crucial area considered by the commission was BSC's recently adopted policy of selling sugar directly to users and eliminating middle men, a controversial policy attacked last year by sugar merchants who reported BSC to the European Commission, alleging abuse of market power.

The commission decided that it was impossible to say what would be the impact on merchanting of a Berisford takeover. The commission said: "In these circumstances they could not conclude that the merger would affect it in some way adverse to the public interest."

Farmers were alarmed yesterday about the outcome of the investigation even though one of their main demands was met, Hugh Clayton writes. Mr Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union, said: "The Government cannot escape its responsibility for safeguarding the future of sugar beet production."

That was an opaque reference to the fear among farmers that the Government will sell its 24 per cent stake in the British Sugar Corporation.

The NFU said in evidence to the Monopolies Commission last year that it would oppose the Berisford bid if it led to any reduction in Government involvement in the sugar industry.

It regarded the Government stake as an important safeguard against diversification by the corporation away from sugar-processing. The commission said yesterday that the NFU had asked it to ensure that, if Berisford was allowed to bid for the corporation, "Berisford would enter into binding and continuing arrangements under which the Government would retain its present rights of intervention."

It was similarly concluded that, providing adequate information was made available, there need not be a deterioration in relations between British Sugar and the beet farmers and other workers. But one member of the commission disagreed, arguing that industrial relations would suffer so much that the merger should be stopped.

Prudential profits fall hits market

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
and Richard Allen

One of the country's largest insurers, Prudential Corporation, sent a shock wave through the stock market yesterday when it revealed profits down by 6¾ per cent to £42.5m.

Almost without exception the market's specialists had misjudged what was happening at the Prudential in the second half of 1980. After the results, the shares fell by 16p to 243p; there was selling of other leading insurance shares, notably those of Legal & General, another big life insurance group, due to report shortly. Its shares fell by 7p to 245p.

The Prudential's life business continued to grow last year: premium income exceeded £1,000m for the first time, increasing by nearly 15 per cent. Profits from this area were 22 per cent higher at £29.5m.

But there was a different story on the general insurance side. Here underwriting losses more than doubled to £33.9m and, surprisingly, investment income remained almost static at £33.6m. So the Prudential was unable, as is usually the case, to offset its losses before tax.

In Britain, where there was a £1.5m deterioration in underwriting losses of £9.3m, the group blamed an increase in the number and cost of claims, particularly in house-contents insurance.

A similar tale of underwriting losses was reported from the Prudential's Australian, Belgian and Canadian businesses, though the worst loss was sustained by its reinsurance specialist, Mercantile and General Reinsurance.

Losses here mounted from £4.1m to £12.4m as over-capacity and a rating-cut in international reinsurance markets took their toll.

M & G was involved in reinsurance claims after the British Aerospace warehouse fire, the Alexandra Palace blaze and the Avondale shipyard loss in the United States which cost the London insurance market $300m. It was also involved in a number of claims as a result of Hurricane Allen.

So M & G's large loss was partly accounted by its increase in technical reserves in the face of these and potential claims.

Despite this disappointing outcome from its general business, however, the Prudential has raised its dividend by more than 15 per cent to 15.7p a share gross for the year.

Eagle Star also disappointed the insurance market despite a £1.6m rise in full-year profits to £65.9m and an increase in the final dividend, lifting total payments by nearly 17 per cent.

The result was around £10m below stock market estimates and the shares fell 16p to 242p.

Spiralling claims on the group's big liability account were the main reason for a jump in the group's general underwriting deficit from £18.8m to £32.5m.

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Eagle Star results, page 22

EEC ministers set for crucial steel talks

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

European Community industry ministers are to begin crucial discussions today on the continuing crisis in the steel industry. The outcome of this meeting will largely determine whether the steel industry begins the slow climb back to financial strength, or whether the continuing price war will claim further victims and thousands more steel workers' jobs.

Today's meeting will consider proposals for a coordinated reduction of excess capacity, which has been an important factor in the collapse in steel prices and the phasing out of state aids for the industry by the middle of 1983.

The efforts to reach agreement on these proposals are being complemented by discussions among the steel producers who are trying to secure voluntary curbs on production and deliveries when the EEC mandatory controls end in June.

Mr Ian MacGregor, the British Steel Corporation chairman, who addressed a conference in London yesterday organized by the Institute of Purchasing and Supply, stressed the need for steel producers to try to achieve stability between supply and demand.

"There has been no increase in prices for over two years, and this despite the high level of domestic inflation. The position has been worsened still further by the recent relative strength of the pound. Prices have reached such low levels that no steel producers in Europe are in profit. This is a nonsensical situation and the success of British Steel's corporate plan will depend on some strengthening of price levels through 1981-82".

Mr MacGregor defended the corporation's policy of cutting prices to match those of imported steel, and insisted that it was not their intention to undercut prices in the market deliberately to take business away from the private sector.

Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation who


Mr William Sirs: fatal flaws in plan.

clashed with Mr MacGregor yesterday over the foundations of the corporate plan, will today urge Viscount Etienne Davignon, the EEC Industry Commissioner, to put pressure on the United Kingdom Government to "freeze" further reductions in corporation capacity. He will press for capacity cuts within the EEC.

At the same conference he described Mr MacGregor as "an absolute dictator" and criticized the manner in which the corporation had formulated its corporate plan.

"As far as we are concerned we cannot endorse something we did not see. There are fatal flaws in the plan. We are following a pattern of contraction which is wrecking our industrial base", he said.

Improvements: Preliminary results from the first two months of operation of the British Steel Corporation's corporate restructuring plan indicated significant improvements, Department of Industry officials told a select committee of MPs in the House of Commons yesterday (Patricia Tisdall writes).

Mr Kenneth Binning, under secretary of the iron and steel division of the department said that the results were due to come under formal scrutiny tomorrow, but the first indication was that productivity improvements in the main corporation plants was equal to or better than that required

Rothschild strengthens its corporate finance arm

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Merchant bank N. M. Rothschild is strengthening its corporate finance department by recruiting Mr Michael Richardson of stockbrokers Cazenove & Co.

Mr Richardson, who will lead the department, is one of the most senior of Cazenove's corporate finance team where he has been advising House of Fraser in its battle against Lonrho. He is also on the board of The Savoy Hotel group and helping fend off the unwelcome bid from Trusthouse Forte.

Cazenove are brokers to Rothschild, but Mr Richardson said the offer of the post came as an enormous surprise. He looked to the challenge of being a principal rather than an agent.

Mr Evelyn de Rothschild, who heads the merchant bank, said yesterday that, although there was a strong young corporate finance team at the bank, it needed a good man at the top and Rothschild would now be "trying to build a team which will be as competitive as any in the City".

Rothschild's corporate finance side had an enviable reputation in the sixties and early seventies but is widely thought to have declined in recent years as talented people left and the rift between Mr Evelyn de Rothschild and his less conventional cousin Jacob widened.

The feud between the two culminated in the much-publicized resignation of Mr Jacob Rothschild last year.

Recently N. M. Rothschild has taken part in few of the major takeover battles or new issues. One of its few important corporate finance operations lately in the United Kingdom was the placing of the National Enterprise Board's stake in Ferranti with institutions.

When Mr Richardson joins the bank in June, Mr David Secker Walker, who now heads corporate finance, will become a vice-chairman of the bank.

Mr Richardson has been with Cazenove for 11 years. He joined them from stockbrokers Panmure Gordon and before that he was with the Drayton Group.

Business appointments, page 23

Shipbuilders pay talks adjourned

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Talks on a pay and productivity deal for British Shipbuilders' 70,000 manual workers and staff will resume next week after rejection by the unions of proposals for sweeping changes in working practices in the industry.

Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Union leaders have made it clear informally to the corporation that they will not accept plans to allow skilled workers to switch between different trades very much further than at present.

The plans expand a declaration already made by top management that they are seeking "total interchangeability" between trades as one of the productivity measures they wish to see attached to this year's pay deal.

Although the outline proposals may be discussed when pay talks resume, probably on Monday in Newcastle, the confederation will say that the detailed interchangeability measures are neither realistic nor as beneficial as British Shipbuilders believes.

For its part, the corporation is determined to reduce what it sees as costly restrictive practices, particularly among skilled shipyard workers. Many of the proposals would affect working practices particularly within the Amalgamated Society of Boilermakers.

Meanwhile, talks on the corporation's restructuring programme were adjourned after a brief meeting held yesterday. There has been a shortfall of 600 on the staff reduction of 2,600 which British Shipbuilders was aiming at. The possibility of compulsory redundancy for the 600 was not raised at yesterday's talks.

Refinery rescue fails

By Hugh Clayton

Sugar processors have rejected a plan to keep the Tate & Lyle cane sugar refinery at Liverpool open by exporting surplus stocks.

The company told trade union leaders last night that exploratory talks with the British Sugar Corporation about a joint export venture had ended without agreement.

The venture was proposed by union leaders in February and accepted by ministers as an avenue worth exploring. The corporation, which processes all beet grown in Britain, decided that EEC rules on pricing and quotas would make beet exports uneconomic.

The refinery, which opened more than 100 years ago, is due to close next week with the loss of 1,500 jobs.

The union team yesterday unsuccessfully asked for an extension to allow for more talks with the Government.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Anglo Am Corp	13p to 676p	Midland	8p to 318p
[illegible] Newspapers	12p to 273p	Paterson Zoch	8p to 530p
[illegible]ta Invst	10p to 190p	Sotheby P.B.	8p to 485p
[illegible]rrison Cros	13p to 800p	Staveley Ind	8p to 246p
[illegible]tal Closures	12p to 111p	Weeks Petrol	20p to 500p

Falls

[illegible]tratt Devs	10p to 374p	Massey-Ferg	10p to 185p
[illegible]thrie Corp	9p to 238p	Peko Wallsend	10p to 470p
[illegible]gal & Gen	25p to 800p	Shell Trans	16p to 249p
	7p to 245p	Ultramar	7p to 483p
[illegible]p Cont Gas	13p to 215p		

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.00	1.92	Netherlands Gld	5.40	5.14
Austria Sch	35.30	33.00	Norway Kr	12.65	12.00
Belgium Fr	82.25	78.25	Portugal Esc	129.00	123.00
Canada $	2.73	2.64	South Africa Rd	2.02	1.88
Denmark Kr	15.50	14.70	Spain Pta	196.00	187.00
Finland Mkk	9.57	9.07	Sweden Kr	10.79	10.24
France Fr	11.45	10.95	Switzerland Fr	4.47	4.24
Germany Dm	4.90	4.66	USA $	2.32	2.25
Greece Dr	116.50	110.50	Yugoslavia Dnr	81.50	76.00
Hongkong $	12.30	11.70			
Ireland Pt	1.34	1.28			
Italy Lir	2440.00	2330.00			
Japan Yn	496.00	471.00			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Tokyo retorts that Western industrial production cannot compete

Chorus of protest at Japanese export drive

Japan is facing a barrage of protest and complaints from nations across the world because its highly efficient industrial plants are threatening the future of domestic competitors in the United States, Western Europe and Asia.

But in retaliation, Tokyo officials complained that Japan was being asked to curb its exports because Western products could not compete. Officials in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry claimed Japan had achieved this competitive edge because it had outstripped the West in industrial production over the past 13 years.

The loudest protest came from Washington yesterday where President Reagan met Mr Masayoshi Ito, the Japanese Foreign Minister, to persuade Japan to curb car exports to the United States. Tokyo officials said their motor industry would restrain car exports to America on a voluntary basis. These exports have risen from 800,000 vehicles in 1975 to 1.9 million last year.

On another front, M François Missoffe, a French trade representative, told Japan that France might be forced to introduce special measures to protect its markets from more competitive Japanese cars and other industrial goods.

Defending France's policies in an interview with a Japanese news agency yesterday, M Missoffe is reported to have said the French Government had decided to limit Japanese car exports to less than 3 per cent of the country's domestic market "until our cars can compete with Japanese cars". Sales of Japanese cars in France rose by 29 per cent last year to 54,697.

Earlier this month, the EEC accepted a French proposal banning indirect imports of Japanese colour television sets.

Even Europe's most efficient industrial power, West Germany, has lodged protests that Japan is beginning to capture an alarming sector of its domestic car, television, electrical consumer goods and machine tool markets. German diplomats are worried specifically because Japanese car exports to West Germany rose by 70 per cent last year.

Recent complaints from the EEC forced Tokyo to urge Japanese industrialists to regulate car exports to Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg in "a more prudent and moderate manner". The Association of South-east Asian Nations has also complained about one-sided trade with Japan.

In their defence, the Japanese say their industrial production has risen by 130 per cent since 1967, compared with 50 per cent for West Germany, 30 per cent for the United States and 10 per cent for the United Kingdom.

The Japanese Government is expected to deal with the problem of placating the United States first.

A formula for voluntary cuts in car exports is expected to be presented to the United States when Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, travels to Washington in May.

Peter Hazelhurst
in Tokyo

New NEB subsidiary to provide 'grass roots' loans up to £50,000

Aid for high technology 'little men'

Formation of a new subsidiary company aimed at stimulating the expansion of small businesses, particularly in high technology, was announced yesterday by the National Enterprise Board.

The new company, Oakwood Loan Finance, has been established in line with the Government's revised guidelines for the NEB, which require it to become a catalyst for investment in small companies. Oakwood will provide five-year loans of up to £50,000.

Announcing the establishment of the new company—which opens up another avenue of finance for smaller companies whose growth the Government is dedicated to promoting—Sir Frederick Wood, chairman of the NEB, said that it aimed to nourish the grass roots of business.

Against the background of the loan guarantee scheme for small businesses to be operated by the clearing banks and announced in the Budget earlier this month, Sir Frederick said: "Over a quarter of a million of Britain's gross national product is attributable to smaller businesses and self-employed people. They represent one of our driving forces in identifying new technology and innovation in general. Every large business began as a small enterprise based on individual initiative."

The NEB's new subsidiary will have an initial tranche of £1m to allocate to deserving businesses which have clear potential. Over the past few months while the scheme has been formulated, a number of potential applicants have already indicated their interest, although the executives who will be responsible for decisions on loan allocations will make clear that most companies will be expected to have sounded out other sources of finance.


Sir Frederick Wood: opening another avenue of finance for smaller companies.

Most of the loans to be made by Oakwood are expected to be between £20,000 and £40,000, and the NEB believes that its scheme will fill a gap in the rapidly growing market of loan facilities for the small company.

The NEB team is promising speedy processing of applications (between 10 to 14 days) and companies taking up loans, which will carry an interest rate 2 per cent higher than MLR, will qualify for a three-year repayment "holiday", which is seen by its promoters as enabling companies to concentrate on profitable growth in the early years.

A feature of the scheme will be that, in parallel with the granting of loans, Oakwood would seek to purchase warrants from small businesses granted a loan facility. A warrant would allow Oakwood to subscribe for a maximum of 20 per cent of the equity capital in a company between the end of the fifth and seventh years.

This facility would offer small companies the option of equity funding by the NEB through Oakwood, as a further stage in their development. But companies will be able to "buy out" the exercise of the warrant by Oakwood by making a payment to the NEB subsidiary. The "buy-out" payment will normally be up to a maximum of 20 per cent of a multiple of two or three times the average profits of the company in its fourth and fifth years.

The company said that loans would be available to new ventures and to established companies considered to have high growth potential, although Oakwood would also be prepared to provide loans as part of an overall financing package put together for a small company.

The establishing of the new loans company comes after the formation last year by the NEB of Anglo-American Venture Capital for high technology businesses in the assisted areas. Another company, Grosvenor Development Capital, provides specialist help for a group of the NEB's smaller investments. At present the board is processing about 50 applications for loans made to Anglo-American Venture Capital.

Peter Hill

Soviet block debts to West total $67,000m

Soviet block nations owed Western countries $67,000m (£29,130m) last year, up from $60,000m in 1979. But Western banks remained lightly exposed, according to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

The increased borrowings were used mainly to finance Eastern European current account deficits and to build up foreign currency reserves.

Most of the debt was in the form of official credits granted by Western nations, with the largest lenders being West German, France and Italy. Most of these credits were aimed at promoting mutual exports.

However, rising world prices of oil and gas last year gave the Soviet Union what is probably its first trade surplus with the West and Japan, western trade experts said.

Italian banks to raise prime rates

Italian banks have decided to raise their prime rate to 22.5 per cent, after the Bank of Italy raised its discount rate to 19 per cent. Advances for export financing will now be made at 20.5 per cent and lending to ordinary clients is expected to be in the region of 24 to 26 per cent, or in some cases up to 28 per cent.

Japan 'discrimination'

Sir Y. K. Kan, chairman of the semi-official Hongkong Trades Development Council, alleged yesterday that Japan's exclusion of some Hongkong products from the Japanese Generalized Scheme of Preferences (GSP) was a "discriminatory" measure. Certain Hongkong goods to Japan are exempted from import duty because Hongkong is considered a developing territory.

Sweden-Norway pact

Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway, and Mr Torbjorn Faldin, Prime Minister of Sweden, have signed a 20-year economic cooperation agreement between their two countries. The agreement involves the establishment of a joint fund to help to provide favourable loans for future joint industrial projects.

Indonesia oil find

Conoco has discovered a substantial oil deposit in Irian Jaya, Indonesia and test drilling has yielded 6,000 barrels of crude a day, the Pertamina State Oil company has announced. Conoco is working on a production sharing agreement with Pertamina, and further drillings will be made.

EEC trade deficit

The European Economic Community's trade deficit with the United States doubled last year to $25,000m (£10,800m). Commission sources blamed the deficit, twice as big as that with Japan, on poor EEC industrial performance and rising imports of manufactured goods.

US investment up

Overseas subsidiaries of American companies are planning investments of $53,000m (£23,000m) this year, 13 per cent more than in 1980, the Commerce Department said in Washington. The 1981 investments will reach $20,000m in the EEC.

Fuel price rise

France is to raise the price of petrol, diesel and household heating fuel by five centimes a litre to 1.936 francs (17p) from tomorrow. The price for a litre of super grade petrol goes up to 3.77 francs.

Dubai oil contract

Toyo Menka Kaisha has signed a contract to import one million barrels of crude oil from Dubai for shipment in April.

UK pledge to Portugal on textile imports

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Despite the problems in its own textile industry, there will be no change in Britain's policy on low-cost textiles from Portugal until that country is "fully established" within the European Economic Community.

This undertaking was given in Oporto yesterday by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade.

With Britain's textile and clothing industry losing 100,000 jobs last year, the Government has been under intense pressure to cut imports, Mr Biffen said. But it was in everybody's interests that present understandings on Portuguese exports continued for the time being, he added.

There is a voluntary restraint agreement on Portugal's exports of textiles and clothing to the United Kingdom that sets upper volume limits, but in shirts alone Portugal accounts for a third of the British market, with annual imports of well over 20 million.

About half of Portugal's total exports of all goods to Europe find their way to Britain, Portugal's oldest trading partner.

The voluntary restraint agreement runs out in January, but Britain expects to renew this to cover the period until Portugal joins the EEC, probably in 1983. The transition period, during which present trade levels with Britain would be expected to continue, could last at least a year, and probably considerably longer.

Little comfort: But Mr Biffen's remarks will be of little comfort to the United Kingdom's man-made fibre industry which has been forced to cut back extensively over the past few months as a result of the recession, continued inroads being made by imports, and rising energy costs (Peter Hill writes).

The industry's sector working party, which operates under the National Economic Development Office, has warned Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry, that output is expected to fall by nearly 40,000 tonnes over the next two years from last year's 433,000 tonnes, with further job losses the inevitable consequence.

In talks with Mr Baker, the working party complained about the effect of the high sterling exchange rate, high costs, especially of energy, the volume of American imports; and the need for a stable domestic market.

NEDO is to undertake a detailed investigation of the key elements in the cost structure of the British fibres industry compared with its competitors.

FBI inquiry into loan for Australian airline

Washington, March 25.—The FBI is investigating the United States Export-Import bank's low-interest, $290m (£125m) loan to an Australian airline, controlled by Mr Rupert Murdoch, for possible misuse of public money.

The inquiry, launched at the request of the Justice Department's public integrity section, is to determine whether the unusually low interest loan was politically motivated, granted in return for a political favour—or commercially justified.

According to sources who have been interviewed by the FBI, the investigation began last September, more than six months after the bank gave preliminary approval to the controversial loan enabling Mr Murdoch's Ansett Transport Industries to buy 18 Boeing airliners, including five wide-body 767s, at an average 8.1 per cent interest rate.

Former President Jimmy Carter, Mr Murdoch, and Mr John Moore, president of the Ex-Im bank, have all denied any connection between the loan and the endorsement of Mr Carter during the New York Presidential primary by *The New York Post*, which is owned by Mr Murdoch. They have argued that the favourable financing terms were necessary to keep Ansett from buying wide-body jets from a European manufac-

The loan, now before Congress for review, is to be granted finally by the bank next week if Congress does not intervene in the meantime.

The loan drew strong Congressional criticism within days of the bank approving it in only half the time the bank normally takes to clear loan applications and at terms more favourable than those on loans granted previously for similar deals. The loan was granted on February 28, 1980, just six days after the *New York Post* endorsed former President Carter.

Critics point out that the endorsement came only three days after Mr Murdoch had a private lunch with Mr Carter at the White House—a lunch that took place the same day Mr Murdoch met with bank officials and personally handed Ansett's loan application to Mr Moore, a Carter appointee who was a strong supporter of the former President during the 1976 campaign.

The FBI has interviewed Treasury aides and the European aircraft manufacturer which was competing with Boeing to sell wide-body jets to Ansett.

In addition to the FBI inquiry the General Accounting Office, the "watchdog" of Congress, is also investigating the loan to see if part of it is going for rebates to the airline for buying United States aircraft. The charge, made in two anonymous phone calls to Congressional aides, has been denied by bank officials, who say Ansett has signed a certificate to guarantee that none of the loan money is being used for cash kickback.—*Washington Star* News Service.

New Ford trucks range for Europe

By Edward Townsend

Ford today launches a new range of trucks for sale throughout Europe as part of its £125m investment programme in Britain.

The trucks, named Cargo, will replace the company's D-Series vehicles which last year captured 27 per cent of the up to 28-tonne gross weight sector of the United Kingdom heavy vehicle market.

Cargo will cover the 6-to-28.5-tonne market and basic models include truck, tipper and articulated vehicles. The range will be produced at Ford's Langley plant near Slough at the rate of 200 a day. It is expected that 50 per cent of the output will be exported.

The trucks represent a big challenge by Ford to European manufacturers, including Leyland Vehicles which is attempting to increase its market share with its T45 series.

Ford says its new truck is cheaper to run. Servicing time and noise levels are claimed to have been reduced by 50 per cent, the cabs have low aerodynamic drag, and safety and comfort have been improved. The Cargo trucks would be priced at less than five per cent above the D-Series models.

Ford's total European output of commercial vehicles last year was 206,366 of which 138,373 (67 per cent) were manufactured in Britain.

The company makes trucks at Langley, Transit vans at Southampton and Escort vans at Halewood, Merseyside. Last year, 60 per cent of D-Series trucks and 35 per cent of Ford's total United Kingdom commercial vehicle output was exported.

The company said that apart from supplying Cargo trucks in kit form to a factory in Portugal it would not be possible to manufacture the trucks in "low cost" countries because of infrastructure problems.

Aircraft loss 'record'

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Insurers could face record claims for aircraft lost last year Mr Jack Webb, retiring chairman of the Aviation Insurance Offices Association, said in his annual report which was presented in London yesterday.

Twenty three airliners built in the West and insured for a total of $200m (£87m) were lost last year, the highest number since 1973.

Two wide-bodied aircraft accounted for half this sum which could rise to a record for civil aviation hull losses when the insured value is included of four airliners built in the Eastern block and insured on the world market.

Passenger deaths on western-built aircraft totalled 745, compared with 879 in 1979. Crew fatalities were 92 compared with 70 the year before.

Redundancy level remains high

By David Hewson

At least 45,000 people were made redundant last month, bringing the total put out of work during the last seven months to 343,800.

The latest provisional figures show that the number of redundancies is not increasing over recent months and may have fallen slightly, but it is still well above last year.

According to estimates of the Manpower Services Commission, 90,000 redundancies occurred during the first two months of this year compared with 56,100 during the same period of 1980.

The principal areas affected last month were metal manufacturing, mechanical engineering and electrical engineering, which accounted for 35 per cent of the total.

There are no signs that the continuing problems of industry are abating.

The number of jobs supported by the Government's temporary short-time working compensation scheme, which encourages companies to move onto short-time rather than make employees redundant, rose dramatically last month to 962,000 from 680,000 in January. Last December, the scheme had supported 595,000 jobs.

The support given by the scheme is limited to nine months, and once it runs out the jobs which it had maintained become vulnerable to redundancy.

The largest single group of redundancies announced last month involved British Shipbuilders, where 2,600 employees face losing their jobs. A further 1,200 redundancies were announced by Birmingham City Council, and 800 at the BL plant at Cowley.

REDUNDANCIES AND REDUCTIONS INVOLVING 100 OR MORE JOBS PUBLISHED DURING THE PAST MONTH

Company and Product	Approx No. affected	Main Location(s)
Metal Box	550	Worcester, Loughborough Road, Leicester, Westhoughton, Carlisle, Northern Ireland, Glasgow
British Shipbuilders	2,600	Throughout the U.K.
Birmingham City Council	1,200	
BRD (GKN)	430	Newtown, Powys
Hardy Spicer (GKN)	300	Eaglescliffe, Co. Durham
International Harvester	532	Bradford, Doncaster
Courtaulds	340	Coventry, Spondon, Derbyshire, Rochdale
Cranes	195	Ipswich
Crane and Hire & Services Engineering	126	Bridgend, Glamorgan
Luke and Spencer (Unicorn Industries)	180	Broadheath, Manchester
Bird's Eye	147	Lowestoft
Falls Flax Spinning	120	Belfast
Cape Insulation	100	Washington New Town, Tyne & Wear
Rank Xerox	230	Mitcheldean, Glos
Berlei, brassiere makers	200	Portsmouth
Hoover	900	Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales, Cambuslang, near Glasgow, Perivale, London
BL's Morris Ital plant	800	Cowley
Berkshire County Council	560	
Essex County Council	400	
Ransome Hoffman Pollard, engineering	340	Northampton
Hull Docks	320	
Kent Process Control	250	Luton
NCR	250	Dundee
Eagle Star Insurance, mainly natural wastage	250	Throughout the U.K.
Lucas	200	Birmingham
Burberry raincoats	200	Reading
Boyles Bros	100	Newcastle
Cannock Fertilisers	100	Stalls
Reed International	250	Gravesend, Kent
British Printing Corporation	635	Watford, Nottingham, Dunstable, Leeds
British Aerospace	235	Lostock, Lancs
Clarkson International Tools	400	Sheffield
British Timken bearings	300	Duston, Daventry, Northants
Whitbread	300	Luton
Rank-Hovis McDougall	300	Mansfield
Thorn-EMI Tapes	270	Hayes, Middlesex
Wilsons Greeting Cards	200	Hayes
Scottish Stamping	200	Ayr
Auto Precision	100	Swindon
Perkins, diesel engines	800	Peterborough
RCA International, records and tapes	270	Washington New Town
British Aluminium	700	Resolven, West Glamorgan, Falkirk, Scotland
DGR Cups	135	Fazakerley, Liverpool
Dare Inglis, furniture manufacturers	115	Rhondda, South Wales
BSC	926	Shotton, N. Wales
BL Longbridge plant	900	
Purnell (BPC) book and general printing	800	Bristol
Plaxtons, luxury coach builders	400	Scarborough
Rubery Owen	400	Darlaston, West Midlands
British Petroleum tanker fleet (officers)	300	
British Steel	331	Staveley, Chesterfield
Yangtsekiang Garment manufacturers	300	Washington New Town
Courtaulds	252	Bocking HQ

Source: *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Financial Times*, Feb 26-March 24

Advanced passenger train support

From Mr Anthony Smallhorn

Sir, Anyone interested in the industrial future of this country must again view Michael Baily's article "Rough ride for the tilting train" (March 17) with abject horror.

When, oh when, will we learn that projects such as the advanced passenger train are "seedcorn" of future generations of engineering? Governments do not learn, so probably we need a revolution.

More than five years ago I wrote, "Historically APT cannot be measured as a development expenditure plus £26m for three prototypes plus £60m for production units. It must be measured as the first example of a nationalized industry developing and producing a successful world beater, which increases any industrial understanding to a degree far more valuable than the actual cost".

This is still true. British Rail must be allowed to be competitive in the late 1980s and 1990s. Problems are solved by adequate engineering input but this costs money. Countries are bankrupt by politicians and muddled thinking.

Doubts about passenger expense will be completely assuaged with regular use especially if speeds higher than 125 mph are allowed. After all, nobody complains when an aircraft banks. The trouble is that part of the narrow-mindedness of strategic planning has meant that BR have not allowed for any track realignment so APT's advantage over the high speed train has been wasted away and both seem *destined* to cruise at 125 mph.

Half-an-hour saved between London and Glasgow means no time saving at all on shorter, straighter lines. APT can either be run faster for the same money as HST or at the same speed and save money as it is more aerodynamic and lighter. The whole argument is rather as though Concorde had been designed with a take-off and landing speed which made it impossible to use any British airport. Would we then have spent the money to improve our airports?

No other industrial nation is so lacking in the understanding of its destiny and of the value of prestige projects. We still fail to measure value on a national basis. In Japan the Ministry of International Trade and Industry has a specific remit to go into the highways and byways of the world of technology and purchase ideas which will be of value to the changing *industrial* status of the country. Every day company results and government cutbacks indicate that industries, both private and nationalized, are being slowed to a crawl. In this case many development programmes will have stopped or are being severely curtailed. Frustrated engineers, their ideas and projects will be easy picking for Miti or any other clear thinking nation, just as they were for Boeing after the cancellation of TSR-2.

When will we ever learn: APT must succeed. More money must be found to make sure that the development succeeds. Conventionally engineered fast trains will not interest overseas markets. Lack of understanding of the total potential of this and other projects has meant that development times have become ridiculously protracted. With the likelihood of £1,000m being spent on track electrification APT will be suited for more lines and should be allowed to run at higher speeds. It is then far more competitive.

Without projects like these Great Britain has no long-term industrial future and no interest in the development of new technology.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY SMALLHORN,
Wrayfield House,
Stotfold,
Hitchin,
Hertfordshire SG5 4NR.
March 17.

Business names registry

From the Director of the National Consumer Council

Sir, The amendment to the Companies (No 2) Bill which was carried in the House of Lords last week indicates the strength and breadth of feeling that it would be misguided to abolish the Registry of Business Names.

Consumers, creditors, enforcement officials, other businesses and journalists all, for differing reasons, share the need to be guaranteed access to adequate information about the true identity of traders. Anyone who sets himself up in public as a trader should say who he is.

All sides agree that the present arrangements are unsatisfactory. The solution is not to be found by sweeping these away altogether. I hope that the Government will accept the spirit of the amendment which has been carried by the House of Lords and make legislative provision for a reformed registry established on a basis that is appropriate for the demands of the modern world.

JEREMY MITCHELL,
Director,
National Consumer Council,
18 Queen Anne's Gate,
London SW1H 9AA.

ICL loan guarantee

From Mr D. B. James

Sir, What is happening to the Conservative Party, has its policy towards lame ducks undergone one of its now infamous "U-turns"?

Can Sir Keith Joseph really expect us in the industry to believe that the £200m loan guarantee to ICL will not be needed.

The City's best predictions are that ICL will need £150m by its year end in September and will make a "conservative" loss of £60m. Based on these sort of figures how does he really expect the company to compete and service its existing and new borrowings?

Having offered the company to a number of cash, technology and management-rich companies and been turned down, he should be fully aware that they and the commercial financial establishments, the experts, hold out no hope of ICL being a viable concern in its present form.

If the company has been unable to compete profitably in a previously protected (single tender) market, how is it going to operate successfully now that this protection has been removed. Especially in the present environment when even the giants (for example, IBM) are girding themselves for the onslaught from the Japanese.

Yet he is committing not just £200m in guarantees but the hardware that will support for the next decade the Government's main cash collecting system, the PAYE computing system. Does he really think that we are so naïve as to believe that if the Government's existing investment in ICL equipment needs protecting to the tune of £200m, that when and if the PAYE system is installed the Government can under any circumstance afford to let the company fail.

D. B. JAMES,
Brookwood,
Aberedw,
Builth Wells,
Powys LD2 3UL.

Windfall profits tax on banking and oil

From Mr Mark Dunn

Sir, Mr Keable-Elliott (Business News Letters, March 19) has fallen into a facile intellectual trap in seeking to justify "windfall profits taxes" by referring to the plight of weaker companies.

Of course there is a recession, and of course many manufacturing businesses are in a bad way. Equally, their contribution to tax revenue will be reduced, and the Chancellor has to look elsewhere to replace the resulting shortfall.

But this has got nothing whatever to do with the principle of confiscatory levies on businesses which are relatively prosperous.

There are those—and I am one—who have very serious doubts about the future ability of many traditional British industries to survive at all. Let alone recover to the point from which they can pull the economy out of the 15-25 year decline which is now coinciding with a world recession.

Under these circumstances to dip into the equity basis of strong businesses, in order to transfuse subsidies into the dying and nearly dead is folly. And there is no commercial logic in such a policy.

The banking and oil sectors though not at a peak of financial strength, do offer a signpost to the future. To impose damaging imposts upon this type of company reduces the strength of just the kind of business which we will depend on more than ever in the future.

We live in a tough and unforgiving world. The sooner we learn to run with winners and cut out losers the better.

Yours faithfully,
MARK DUNN,
Crescent House,
152 Walton Street,
London, SW3 2JJ.
March 19.

Present day engineers

From Mr G. J. Caplen

Sir, BBC television is at present showing a series on nineteenth century engineers. These men are still revered by the public, which makes it very odd that the same public regards todays engineers as men with oily rags who are always on strike. Granted that the term "engineer" does lead one to think of somebody working with engines, (I have for many years advocated substituting the name "applied scientist"), but this cannot be the reason for the difference as the nineteenth century men were also known as engineers. Telford even had the word inscribed on his bridges.

It is my belief that the different attitude stems from the anonymity of the work done by todays engineers. Telford has his name on his bridges. If there is anything at all on the Severn Bridge it will almost certainly be the name of the company. Of course the modern tendency to specialize has made it difficult to say that any one person has designed the whole of a large project but I would have thought that the same thing applied to architecture and most people know that Sir Basil Spence designed Coventry cathedral.

Another difficulty is that engineering is now so complex that even if the public knew, for instance, that I designed the first arc furnace transformers to have on load tap changing and to operate from 66,000 volts, it would mean nothing to most of them. Yet the same applies to scientists and they are at least respected, even if not as highly as solicitors and accountants.

Could the BBC be persuaded to do a similar series on modern engineers?

Yours faithfully,
G. J. CAPLEN,
8 Avon Close,
Stafford ST16 3XB.
March 15.

Prices of HMSO publications

From Mr Nicholas Mason

Sir, Further to Dr Thomas' adding "fuel to the flames" (Letters, March 23) about the inflated prices charged to Her Majesty's Stationery Office I would claim the record.

Dr Thomas's publication of 148 pages at £20 works out at approximately 13.5p per page. The Theft Act, 1978, which occupies a mere three sides of print at £1, is valued at 33.3p per page. Theft indeed!

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS MASON,
28 North Villas,
London NW1 9BL.
March 24.

Curbs on British Telecom

From Professor K. W. Cattermole

Sir, One of the most damaging and least explicable features of the Government's economic policy is the failure to distinguish between the public sector's current expenditure and productive investment. Financial needs for both are lumped into an arbitrarily constituted PSBR (public sector borrowing requirement), with the result that a joint constraint aimed primarily at current outgoings actually hits useful developments, with ill effects all round. Nowhere is this more clearly illustrated than in telecommunications.

Telecommunications is both a public utility and a manufacturing sector of prime importance to the economy. It has excellent prospects of continuing the volume growth and technical development which it has long exhibited. The nationalized utility, British Telecom, is among the few leading administrations, whether judged by size or by technical competence, while British manufacturers and research institutions are internationally recognized for their technical skills. One of the most heartening sights, to a British citizen all too aware of our beleaguered economy, was the British presence at the last major international telecommunications exhibition (at Geneva in September, 1979), where the United Kingdom pavilion outshone all others in its working exhibits of well-designed modern products, achieved by the coordinated efforts of our public sector and private sector bodies. Here, surely, is a potential winner if only we back it strongly enough.

It seems quite irrational that a profitable utility, growing at some 10 per cent per annum and simultaneously engaged in technological updating and service innovations, should have its borrowing powers restricted to one half per cent of assets. Yet such was the case for BT last year. This year's limit, though higher, is still only a small fraction of the necessary, let alone the desirable, investment.

The average telephone user probably does not realize that BT's productivity has improved consistently for many years. He has heard of, even if not suffered from, delays in provision: he knows that charges have recently risen. He may not be aware that the first deficiency is mainly due to under-investment and the second to the financing of nearly all capital expenditure from current revenue.

Let me explain briefly the case for further borrowing for investment in BT:

(a) improvements in telecommunications services benefit the whole community and especially its commercial sector; (b) most of the money spent will provide work for the British capital-goods industry; (c) expansion of the home-market base will strengthen British exports by keeping up momentum in technical development, by reducing unit costs and by providing a working showcase for British products; (d) such a programme imposes no loss on public funds, but on the contrary should be an attractive investment with a good financial return.

It is well known that the Government intends to reduce the areas of BT monopoly and to open the supply of terminals and some services to private enterprise: and it might be thought that this is an alternative way of bringing finance to telecommunications. However, this is not so. Such new enterprise, however useful, can supply only a small fraction of the public's need for telecommunications; moreover, most of them would be dependent in some way on the existence, and efficient operation, of the BT network. Thus there is no substitute for direct investment in the main public network.

Finally, it should be said that our industrial competitors overseas do not subject themselves to such artificial shackles. The United States and Sweden, France and Japan all differ from the United Kingdom and from each other in the boundaries between public and private sectors, and in the degree of government *dirigisme*. But they all succeed in adequately financing telecommunications both as a public unity and as a manufacturing industry. We can, and should, do likewise.

Yours faithfully,
K. W. CATTERMOLE,
Professor of Telecommunications, Department of Electrical Engineering Science,
University of Essex,
Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester CO4 3SQ.

هكذا في الأصل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Prudential out of balance

Mounting underwriting losses are commonplace in insurance these days and Prudential and Eagle Star duly produced two huge ones yesterday. What is usual, however, is that these losses are more than covered by growing investment income. In the case of Prudential they are not, which explains a 6¼ per cent fall to £42.5m in net profits, albeit there is the consolation of a 15¾ per cent increase in the gross dividend to 15.7p a share.

What happened is not entirely clear. Broadly, though, while the Prudential's life business moved majestically ahead during 1980 (premium income topped the £1,000m mark for the first time and profits from life operations increased by 22 per cent to £29.5m) real difficulties were being encountered in its general insurance activities.

Underwriting losses more than doubled to £33.9m. In no area or territory did the Prudential avoid losses and, to add to its discomfort, Mercantile and General Reinsurance, operating in a volatile business at


Lord Carr, chairman of Prudential Corporation.

the best of times, experienced a sharp downturn with underwriting losses rising from £4.1m to £12.4m in the face of overcapacity and rate-cutting in international reinsurance.

The fact that the Prudential—with investment income up by only £1m to £33.6m—was unable to offset underwriting losses *meant that it had to rely on a tax credit* of £2.8m to produce a profit at all from its general insurance side.

A case that a number of exceptional factors (notably harmonization of M and G accounting procedures which had the effect of knocking off £800,000 from investment income) and some perhaps unexceptional points (translation of overseas income into sterling and the effect on cash flow for investment of uderwriting losses) is the most optimistic route shareholders can take at this stage.

The doubt, naturally, is not whether the Prudential is anything other than sound (a five point improvement to 60 per cent in the solvency margin demonstrates that) but whether ideas of it being a growth stock within the sector should be temporarily shelved.

At 243p now, down 16p yesterday, the shares are yielding 6.5 per cent and giving away no premium against the life sector. The Prudential must show that it can restore the balance of its general business.

Indexed stock

Time to make a decision

Pension fund managers who have not already done so will have to make up their minds today at what level to pitch tenders for the index-linked Treasury stock that goes on offer tomorrow. Actuarial advice that has been flying around over the past few days suggests that bids ought to be pitched between 78 and 88, to produce a real rate of return of 3-4 per cent. However, to find an actuary who believes that this is what will happen in practice is an entirely different matter.

So what are the arguments to justify bids at par or substantially above? The first, and in my opinion a foolish one, is that of "scarcity value". All the sgns are that this will not prove a unique stock.

The more fundamental argument for bidding up the price is that a portfolio can stand an element of potentially sub-standard return in exchange for the "certainty" of (real) return offered by the new stock. This is a reasonable argument, though whether the low risk premium should push the yield much below 2 per cent is debatable.

Additionally, there is, of course, the *fatalist approach. This says that real returns* from conventional investments can no longer be looked upon even as probable. So anything that guarantees simply to maintain the real purchasing power of the investment should be grabbed, whether or not it offers an additional yield. My only comment on that would be that if we are sinking into a world of nil real returns over the long term, *then one might reasonably doubt that* the new stock itself will be redeemed in 1996.

The irony with this stock is that the tender takes place a week after the publication of figures showing a sharp upturn in the six monthly rate of inflation. One of the reasons, apparently, for holding back an index-linked issue last year was that the government wished to issue such a stock only when inflation was on the way down: it did not wish to lay itself open to the accusation that it was behaving irresponsibly.

As it is, potential tenderers are now bound to consider how much any deterioration in inflationary expectations is likely to influence the price of the stock over the coming months. Theoretically, the stock could respond violently to any change in inflationary expectations that *in turn* affected the perception of an acceptable rate of real return. What potential investors might ask themselves, however, is how much in practice the stock would have moved last Friday on the announcement of a rather disappointing RPI.

Berisford/British Sugar

Conditional go-ahead

It would have been easier for S. & W. Berisford if the Monopolies Commission had ruled clearly against its bid for British Sugar. For Berisford is now faced with several possibilities: it can press ahead with the bid, sell its stake, or less likely, do nothing. The decision will be governed by two considerations, the price and the Commission's conditions.

The conditions are far from insurmountable. Indeed, Berisford has already told the Commission in evidence that it would accept them, which puts the report's insistence on them in an interesting light and which makes it hard for Berisford not to proceed on these grounds. The only reservation is what exactly the Commission and the government understand by running BSC as a separate company. It is not Berisford's style to leave its subsidiaries to go their own way.

Price, however, will be the crux. If BSC's profits this year are £44m, and Berisford improves its bid by about 50 per cent to 330p a share, the exit p/e for BSC shareholders is 9.4, which is not wildly attractive. BSC is probably worth about 400p a share, and at almost 290p last night it is yielding some 5 per cent. Berisford is about 112p, which is equivalent to 168p after adjusting for the capitalization issue, and yields nearer 6 per cent.

At 330p a share Berisford would be paying *about £200m* for BSC. It is quite possible that BSC's shares will run up to this level, and there was heavy trading last night as speculators hoped for a Berisford bid. Obviously, Berisford could keep the market guessing, take profits, and look elsewhere.

But it is more likely that with BSC profits of £52m in sight next year Berisford will pitch in at 330p to 350p a share, hoping that *it can thereby lure out the Government's 24* per cent holding.

● *Slough Estates is too solid to spring surprises and yesterday's news of 1980 pretax profits up by 13 per cent to £11.4m and the dividend 20 per cent higher left the shares 1p down at 151p, close to the 1980-81 peak. Rental income rose by 24 per cent to £19m in Britain though by only 6 per cent to £5.78m abroad, but pretax profits lagged because the cost of carrying land jumped from only £241,000 to £1.52m. Interest rates obviously took their toll at a time when development was slowing down to ensure, as the trading bulletin delicately put it, "a reasonable balance between supply and demand". However, too much should not be made of this since Slough still has plenty of industrial space and adding 350,000 sq ft or so a year. There has been no increase in the vacancy rate in the United Kingdom and, apart from some five-year reviews, the group has most of its United Kingdom industrial property rent reviewed every year. Profits should double or more in five years; rise to £13.5m this year and in general dividends should continue to rise strongly as interest rates fall.*

Economic notebook

A cautionary tale

On May 1, 1930, when the United States was showing signs of recovery from the financial and economic crisis that had hit it the previous year, President Herbert Hoover publicly declared: "I am convinced we have passed the worst." This was on the eve of the first American banking crisis, which ushered in the Great Depression.

It is a cautionary tale for those of a sanguine disposition who are today boldly predicting that the recession in Britain has bottomed out.

The reasons why some recessions are quickly reversed and others deepen into depressions, like that of 1929-33 in the United States, are not clearly understood. Certainly, there is little hard evidence yet that the British economy has even temporarily stopped contracting, much less that we have reached the trough of the cycle or that recovery will be experienced some time soon.

The optimism recently expressed by some Treasury economists, that the trough may have been reached, is based largely on what are known as the "cyclical indicators". These are four blocks or indicators, grouped according to whether their fluctuations precede changes in the economic cycle or whether they coincide with it, or lag behind it.

The leading group of indicators is subdivided into "longer leading" and "shorter leading" indicators.

The composite index of "longer leading" indicators (comprising short-term interest rates, corporate financial assets, housing starts, share prices and Confederation of British Industry surveys of business optimism) has now been rising for some 15 months. In the past, this index has on average, preceded an upturn in economic activity by about 15 months. This suggests that an upturn *should occur about now.*

However, the index has on occasion started to rise as much as 21 months before the economy has begun to recover. If this were to happen again, the recovery would not come before the late summer.

At the same time the index of "coincident indicators" (income, *expenditure, output*, retail sales, capacity use and changes in stocks of materials) is actually suggesting that the bottom of the recession was reached towards the end of last year. But it is clear that this index has been distorted by the abnormally high level of retail business caused by the prolonged new year "sales" in the high street.

Moreover, two of the component indicators in this group have not been included for several months, and their eventual inclusion could lead to substantial revisions to the coincident index.

It all seems a flimsy basis on which to make firm predictions, and, of course, none of these indicators takes account of the Budget measures. These, in spite of protestations to the contrary by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, must have a contractionary effect on the economy.

It remains the view of Mr Lawson and his Treasury colleagues, that a gentle recovery will be seen in the second half of this year. Precisely how this will come about, when living standards and company investment will be falling and exports are desperately uncompetitive, remains unclear.

In a speech this week Mr Lawson suggested that the recovery could come from a slowdown in the rate of destocking by companies, a fall in the level of savings as inflation drops and an upturn in the world economy.

It does seem quite possible that there will be a slowdown in the rate of destocking, which during 1980 was unprecedented. But if the recovery rests on this alone, it could easily prove a false dawn.

Also whether individuals will be prepared to dig into their savings to support their living standards can only be a matter of guesswork. We have no postwar experience of the way people behave when there are three million jobless.

Certainly, we cannot expect a recovery in world trade to rescue us, unless it is strong and sustained. British goods are now very uncompetitive in overseas markets and all the evidence suggests that in such *circumstances our share of* world trade in manufactures will fall in volume and that this could continue for several years.

We could, therefore, yet see a situation in which one of the few elements of demand in the economy to show an increase will be public exepnditure—a prospect that cannot be very appealing to the Government.

The reason why Mr Lawson and others at the Treasury believe that a boost to the economy must come from somewhere is that the "real" money supply will be growing. That is to say, the rate of inflation will drop below the Government's target growth for the money supply. Or, *to put it* in a different way, the money supply will grow faster than is necessary to accommodate the rise in prices, leaving room for some real growth in output during 1981-82.

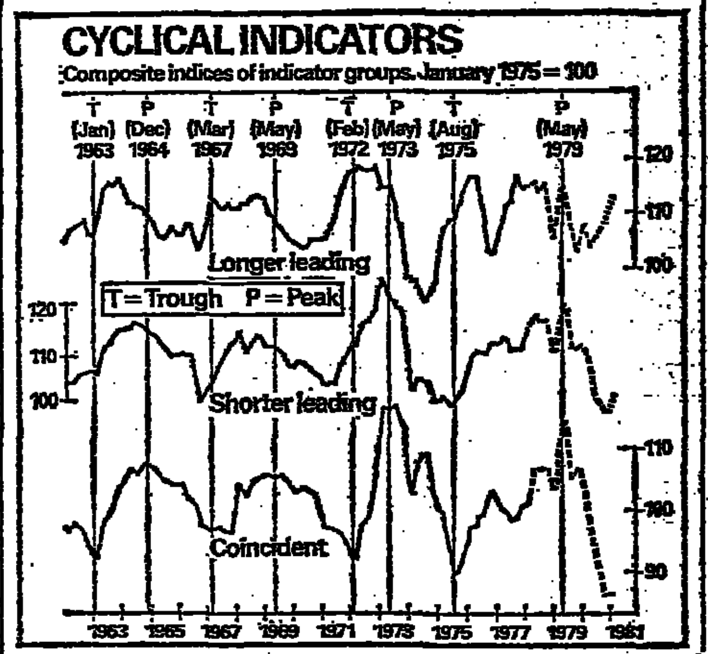
The Government has a 6 per cent to 10 per cent target for money growth in the coming financial year, and the velocity of money is also tending to rise by about 1 per cent or 2 per cent a year on average. Against this, inflation is forecast to be down to 8 per cent by the second quarter of 1982. According to this line of argument, there will thus be room for perhaps 2 per cent real growth in output.

Such calculations represent monetarist "fine tuning" of a high order.

If inflation proves to be a couple of points higher than forecast, the perdicted growth will presumably disappear like the morning mist. On the other hand, if the monetary target were raised by, say, 4 percentage points, we could perhaps ensure real growth of 6 per cent.

Is there any limit to this wonderous process? Perhaps the Government has at last found the formula for growth in our time.

Melvyn Westlake



Industrial action and politics—where is the dividing line?

The controversy involving members of the National and Local Government Officers Association (Nalgo) over the "blacking" of work related to council house sales highlights some of the most crucial issues which confront the Government in its review of trade union law reform. In particular, this action reveals the inadequacy of the present law to curtail industrial action taken to promote political purposes and it also raises apprehensions about the operation of the closed shop in the public sector.

Events in the London boroughs of Camden and Lambeth illustrate the position. The councils are Labour-controlled and strongly opposed to the Conservative policy of selling *council homes. Their opposition* is shared by Nalgo, which represents white collar employees responsible for handling applications for purchase by council tenants. The union members concerned have been authorized (but not instructed) to "black" the relevant work and this action has been approved by the union's Emergency Committee at national level.

Officially, the reason given by the union branches for the blacking is the refusal by the management of its demand for extra staff to be taken on to handle the council house sales. It is difficult to believe, however, that the action of the union branches concerned is not motivated to some extent by political considerations; yet, by adopting or annexing the vocabulary of a staffing dispute, the union thereby cloaks itself with the immunity from legal action available to individuals who act "in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute".

The meaning of this much-litigated formula has been the subject of a series of celebrated cases in the last two years. One of these arose out of the blacking of a ship called the Nawala, where the lawfulness of political strikes was directly in issue. The House of Lords eventually decided that, provided a dispute was to some extent connected with legitimate employment matters, then it was immaterial that it was also partly or even predominantly motivated by some political or extraneous purpose.

This decision overturned an early decision of Lord Denning in the Court of Appeal that industrial action taken for a *predominantly* political purpose was not in furtherance of a trade dispute and therefore did not attract the statutory immunity.

Although the present law still gives no protection to strikes taken for a purely political purpose, it is very easy for a union (whether acting in good faith or not) to dress up a political dispute in the guise of a trade dispute. The result is that in practice, a union which goes about its business in the right way has virtually a free hand in promoting industrial action for a political purpose, the only exception being if the attendant trade dispute is an obvious sham.

In practice, it would be awkward for a court to disentangle *the various elements in a dis*pute and decide which of them was predominant. This difficulty notwithstanding, there is much support for a change in the law restricting protection only to those disputes connected "wholly or mainly" with employment matters.

> 'In practice, a union . . . has virtually a free hand in promoting industrial action for a political purpose'

A second cause for concern is the ability of a union branch to promote political blackings or strikes by means of the closed shop, such as exists in Camden but not in Lambeth. A *particular feature of closed* shops in the public sector is that in the past they have usually been introduced by means of a formally negotiated agreement between the unions and the employing authority. This may happen over the heads and contrary to the wishes of some of the employees concerned: it is significant that almost all the well-known cases in which people have lost their jobs as a result of closed shop agreements have been in the public sector.

The danger of closed shops in the public sector is that they allow for an unholy alliance between politically elected employers and union branches which are becoming increasingly politicized. Traditionally, the maintenance of an independent bureaucracy has been regarded as an essential component of the system of checks and balances which underpins our constitutional freedom. Last year's Employment Act notwithstanding, the closed shop largely allows the union to override the conscientious objection of individuals to taking part in politically motivated industrial action.

If the tradition of an independent bureaucracy is to be maintained, there is a strong case for making the closed shop altogether unlawful where the employer is a politically elected body.

A *third and final aspect* of the matter relates to the shortcomings of the special provisions in last year's Employment Act putting some limit on the immunity for industrial action. These measures are confined to the disruption of commercial contracts existing between businesses and therefore have little effect on public bodies such as local authorities, which are not primarily trading concerns. Their relationship with the public does not depend upon business contracts but upon a series of statutory duties imposed by Parliament.

Thanks to yet other decisions of Lord Denning in the Court of Appeal there appears at the moment to be no immunity at all for individuals who use unlawful means to procure a breach of statutory duty. By contrast, there is still a very wide immunity for causing breaches of contracts in furtherance of trade disputes.

This incipient distinction between the public and private sectors in defining the limits on how far industrial action is lawful may very well be a signpost for the future.

Be that as it may, the present Court of Appeal decision would have the effect of making almost any form of industrial action in the public sector unlawful, which is a wholly unrealistic position for the courts to maintain. For this reason alone, the Government may be obliged to review the position in its current round of talks on the Green Paper on trade union immunities and to clarify the position by statute.

Brian Capstick

Spotted dog specialist wanted

Ivor Davis

Los Angeles

True Brit, a lively tabloid monthly which caters to the 350,000 Britons who now call southern California home, recently carried a story which *asked, "Are you looking for* a green card?".

The green card is the much sought after permanent residents' visa which enables foreigners to live and work in America with no restrictions.

The newspaper then suggested that Britons intent on staying here should brush up on their bubble and squeak, tripe and onions and spotted dog. The United States Labour Department, the publication explained, "is anxious to give work permits to aliens from any part of the world who qualify as ethnic food cooks".

The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service has not, as yet, been bombarded with applications from the cream of Britain's culinary world. But in the last few months there has been a remarkable increase in the number of skilled Britons in a variety of other specialties who have set their sights on America and particularly on a place in the southern California sun.

"Brain drains" have always had their ebbs and flows, says Mr Richard Fraade, a Beverly Hills lawyer who specializes in immigration and consular matters. He says that America has rewritten the immortal words on the Statue of Liberty.

"No longer do they want the poor, tired and huddled masses . . . Instead, it's the skilled, the trained and talented", he says.

Mr Fraade recently opened a London office run by his brother Robert to cope with the increase in traffic.

He says there is a new rush of middle class, skilled workers from Britain to fill a variety of jobs in banks, insurance offices, computer companies, hospitals and aerospace factories in America.

Recently the Northrop Corporation, one of the largest aerospace companies in California, found itself picketed by American aerospace engineers, who claimed that they were losing jobs because the company was hiring scores of skilled British engineers at lower salaries.

The English engineers got their work permits through lawyers like Mr Fraade, who sets out to help them step by step through the complicated entry process.

"It's a kind of *bracero* programme for Britons", he says. "In bygone years, it was unskilled Mexican workers who were *shipped into California* by the hundreds on temporary work permits to pick lettuce and grapes. Now the British are coming on the same kind of temporary visas to take the well paid, skilled jobs."

Mr Al Strong, president of the Los Angeles headhunting firm Commercial Programming Services, makes frequent trips to London to recruit skilled workers. Recently, he said one California insurance company *needed half a dozen data pro*cessors. "They couldn't find them in the United States so they sent me to England. I saw 40 candidates and hired six of them."

"After a year they are supposed to go home but in many cases they want to stay and that is when we call in an immigration lawyer to . . . get them their green cards."

Companies like Cybtertek Corporation of Culver City hire data processors at salaries ranging from $25,000 to $35,000 (£10,870 to £15,200) a year.

"California is very attractive to these people" Mr Strong says.

Mr Fraade says that there is still a big demand for skilled British workers in "silicone Valley" (the heart of California's electronics industry) and with unemployment running so high in Britain, there is a large pool of assemblers, tool and die makers, welders, *carpenters and pipe fitters to* draw on.

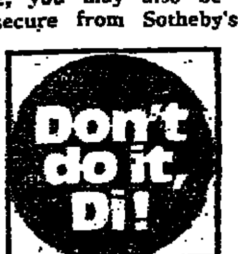
As a result the practice of immigration law and associated fields like tax and investment guidance has become one of the fastest growing specialities in the country.

Business Diary: I thee wed (subject to contract)

Now thrive not only the mug makers but lordly auctioneers and leftie badge mongers. . . .

The approaching nuptials of Prince Charles are being celebrated by Central Books, a London bookshop carrying a wide selection of books by V. I. Lenin, with a badge (below) in royal purple, admonishing "Don't do it, Di!".

This will cost Carlophobes 15p a time. For about £4,999.85 more, you may also be able to secure from Sotheby's on



Monday fortnight what the auctioneers say is the earliest known marriage contract between a Prince of Wales and his lady.

The contract, which could be subtitled "Do do it, Phil!", is from 1326 and is between Prince Edward, later King Edward III, and Philippa, daughter of Count William of Hainault.

Under its terms Edward promised to secure papal dispensation for the marriage (they were cousins), marry Philippa within two years or cough up £10,000.

The money stayed in the family, for Edward and Philippa were married in time—when he was 16 and she 14. She proved to be a devoted wife, he a wandering husband.

We owe the survival of the contract to a Philipps—not a member of Prince Charles's brother-in-law's family, but to the nineteenth century collector Sir Thomas Philipps.

The Sotheby's sale, which is likely to be handled by Lord John Kerr, head of the books department, is of manuscripts now owned by the family trust of the book dealers Philip and Lionel Robinson.

Lord John told me yesterday *that the contract is in the cata*logue as expected to fetch between £3,000 and £5,000.

"The catalogue was printed before the marriage was announced", he said. Prices as a rule aren't affected by extraneous things which happen at the same time."

It does not look as if 655 years from now Sotheby's will be knocking down a similar momento of the present Prince's union. Asked whether Lady Diana's family wanted a contract, a spokesman for Prince Charles said yesterday: "No, apparently not. Nothing like that at all."

● Sir Charles Ball, 57, is not so much a poacher turned gamekeeper as a game-keeper *turned squire.* After years of telling company chairmen how to avoid takeovers he is for the first time becoming a chairman himself.

On July 1 he is to take over the top job at Telephone Rentals, the group that rents and sells loudspeaker telephones and other electronic gadgetry, from 67-year-old Eric Cooper, who started with the group as a salesman in 1936.

The succession shows that if there is no love in business at least there is loyalty. Sir Charles, as a director of Kleinwort Benson, told Cooper how to avoid being taken over by GEC in 1966.

The chairman-elect has directorships, arising from his Kleinwort days, at Tunnel Holdings, the cement group now busy trying to fend off Thos W. Ward, and at Rockware Group, the glass people, Peachey, British Transport Docks and Sun Alliance.

At Telephone Rentals Sir Charles will concentrate on the group's relations with the world outside the company. The engineering side will be left to a Telephone Rentals veteran, Bob Sly, who becomes chief executive.

● Best wishes to oilman Algy Cluff on his acquisition of *The Spectator*—but also a niggle. The current issue of this estimable organ carries an article by Edward Norman, ecclesiastical historian and Dean of Peterhouse, Cambridge.

This is a sniffy review of a book on the modern papacy by my colleague, Peter Nichols, which under the title "Misunderstanding Rome" says of our Rome correspondent: "His judgment, in fact, rests upon some sadly familiar propaganda depictions."

Dr Norman's opening sentence, however, reads: "This book is the result of *The Times* strike", in that Nichols had a year's leisure in which to research his work.

But, Dr Norman, the year in question saw not a strike but a *lock-out*. No "propaganda depiction" is sadder or more familiar to journalists of *The Times* than this and, while I am resigned to hearing it parroted by the ill-informed, it grates when repeated by an academic in the course of marking down a colleague.

The Dean of Peterhouse may be excused such a lapse. His recreation, after all, is "watching television"—not perhaps the best window in the world; and there again, as a divine, it may be that his eyes are fastened less on this world than on the next.

But not so those of the editor of *The Spectator*, Alexander Chancellor. During the lock-out he published pieces by *Times* journalists—Nichols included—thus saving them from severe verbal constipation.

Then, and later, Chancellor offered a running commentary on what he thought was happening at New Printing House Square; and in the edition which carries Dr Norman's effusion there is an article on *The Times* by Paul Johnson, as well as another by Christopher Booker on "The art of book reviewing".

With all these temporal sages about, why was it not possible to keep the unworldly Dr Norman from the path of error?

If there is any more of this sort of thing *The Spectator*, I shall call down upon the magazine the Course of Davies. This does not mean cancelling *The Spectator*, for that I could never do.

It means writing for the thing. I did so for two magazines, *Panache* and *Books & Bookmen*, both of which promptly folded. During the lock-out.

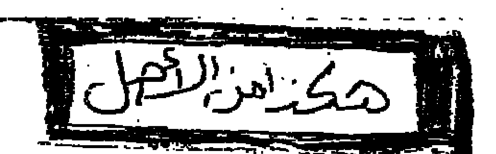
* *The Pope's Divisions: The Roman Catholic Church Today*, by Peter Nichols; Faber and Faber, £10.

Ross Davies

Wallchart

THIS IS THE TIME WHEN I ALWAYS REFLECT....





FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Insurances tumble after Prudential results

After Tuesday evening's strong advance the pace slowed in equities yesterday as light profit taking developed.

Prices in most major sectors recorded falls and jobbers were busy mopping up stock which had been in short supply. Once again early morning trade was led by the overnight setback on Wall St where the Dow Jones slipped below the 1,000 level. Worries persisted over the deteriorating situation in Poland.

As a result the *FT* Index closed 4.3 lower at 507.4 having been 4.5 off at 3 pm.

Shortages of stock again provided building shares with further impetus while the higher bullion price saw further activity in gold shares. But oils came in for a shake out following overnight selling of oil shares on Wall St.

The long list of trading statements kept dealers busy, especially in the insurance market where several disappointing results sent prices tumbling.

With conditions tight in the money market yesterday jobbers reported further persistent selling of Government securities. Institutions were still ready to take profits in order to raise cash for application of the new index-linked stock which starts today.

Prices in longs closed with falls of between £¾ to £½, while at the shorter end the falls were kept to within £1/16 to £¼.

Dunlop up 2p at 80p was the main feature in leading industrials, following an exchange of 21.2m shares between Pegi International and Goodyield Plaza at around 80p. But dealers did not think a full-scale bid would take place.

Elsewhere, falls predominated, with **ICI** 2p lower at 236p, **Beechams** 3p at 174p, **Glaxo** 4p to 294p, **Unilever** 7p to 496p, **Fisons** 3p to 155p, **Bowater** 6p to 224p and **BOC International** and **GKN** both 1p lower at 121p and 146p respectively. Only **Lucas Industries**, reporting later today, bucked the trend by advancing 6p to 174p.

The profits shortfall at **Prudential Corp** saw jobbers mark the price sharply lower at 242p, after 239p; a net fall on the day of 17p. The full-year figures from **Eagle Star** were less than impressive and the shares fell 16p to 242p with **Legal & General**, reporting next week, 7p lower at 245p. The falls might have been heavier but for the increased dividend.

In the meantime, the rest of the sector dipped in sympathy with falls in **GRE** 4p to 344p, **Royal** 5p to 378p and **General Accident** 6p to 332p.

In banks the major clearers seemed unconcerned by the escalating strike by clerical staff with **Barclays** adding 2p to 380p, **Midland** 8p to 318p, **Lloyds** 3p to 323p and **National Westminster** unchanged at 348p. Talk of better terms from **Standard & Chartered**, up 3p at 657p, saw **Royal Bank of Scotland** *jump 10p to 140p. In* merchant banks **Berkeley Hambro** advanced 8p to 250p along with **Kleinwort Benson** 8p to 272p both ahead of figures today.

An £8m cash call to shareholders clipped 1½p from **County & New Town Properties** at 64½p while full-year figures had **Slough Estates** 1p lower at 151p. Falls of 1p and 2p were also seen in **MEPC** at 241p, **Land Securities** at 417p, **Gt Portland** at 252p and **Haslemere Estates** at 412p.

Better than expected trading statements gave a fillip to **Arthur Bell**, 6p to 176p, **Sirdar**, 4p to 163p, **Church & Co** 7p to 165p, **Percy Lane** 9p to 39p, **Metal Closures** 12p to 111p and **Rockware** 5p to 65p.

Persistent buyers of Rothmans International have sent the shares to a new high of 55p, on any combination of three rumours: a property revaluation, a deal with BAT, or one with Grand Metropolitan over Liggett's tobacco interests. Rothmans says: "We don't know why the shares are going up". For a market normally between 50,000 and 100,000 shares, buying orders have gone in at an average of 100,000 and higher. The shares closed last night at 54½p.

But disappointing news hit **Armstrong Equipment** 2½p to 42½p, **Bestobell** 2p to 372p and **Garton Engineering** 4p to a new low of 40p.

Still benefiting from recent trading statements, **Highgate & Optical** expanded 4p to 23p but **Ricardo Engineering Consultants** continued to fall 63p to 490p. Profit taking wiped 9p from **Stothert & Pitt** at 101p, 13p from **United Newspapers** at 190p and 8p from **Watmoughs** at 195p.

Textiles had a firm session buoyed on by improved performances from **A. Beckman** up 3p at 67p, **British Mohair** up 5p at 40p and **Wilkinson Warburton** up 10p at 72p.

The Monopolies Commission's go-ahead for a full bid for British Sugar was greeted cautiously with **British Sugar** rising 21p to 286p while **S & W Berisford** closed 4p easier at 112p.

Trusthouse Forte drifted 1p to 213p but **Savoy 'A'** still awaiting further developments was wanted 5p higher at 178p. **F. Pratt** climbed 4p to 109p on news that the **600 Group**, up 1p at 78p, had increased its stake to 27 per cent. **Wolverhampton Steam Laundry** ended 6p dearer at 38p on recent news that Concourt had taken a 20 per cent stake.

Shortages of stock again benefited builders with **Blue Circle** 4p dearer at 408p, **Redland** 4p to 180p, **London Brick** 1p to 79p, and **BPB** 1p to 279p. **Newarthill** rose 5p to 455p after news of a £12m disposal and profit taking clipped 9p from **Barratt Developments** at 238p and **Wilson Connolly** 7p to 231p.

Electricals were easier with more stock coming on offer. **GEC** slipped 2p to 668p, **Racal** 2p to 367p, **Plessey** 5p to 311p and **Standard Telephone & Cables** 3p to 494p. Among second liners, **Farnell** eased 5p to 392p but **Normand Electrical** edged ahead 2p to 26p.

Stores closed mixed although gains were seen in **Debenhams** 1p to 88p, **J. Hepworth** 1p to 114p, **Boots** 3p to 240p and **British Home Stores** 1p to 158p.

Oil shares saw heavy selling following the weakness of oil shares in New York overnight. **BP** fell 10p to 374p, **Shell** 8p to 384p, **Ultramar** 7p to 483p, **Tricentrol** 8p to 290p and **Burmah** 6p to 165p. **Lasmo**, which reported earlier in the week, was also badly hit, dropping 27p to 592p.

A disappointing drilling report cut 6p from **Premier Consolidated** at 100p as **London United Investments**, also with a sizable stake in the project tumbled 18p to 185p.

Berkeley Exploration closed 5p cheaper at 290p and **KCA International** 3p at 188p.

Equity turnover for March 24 was £167.849m (bargains 27,902). Active stocks according to the Exchange Telegraph were Lasmo, GEC, Shell, Ultramar, BP, GKN, Cons Gold Field and IC Gas.

Traditional options: Dealers reported quieter conditions yesterday. Calls were made in Dunlop, Keith Collins Pets, French Kier, William Press at 3½p Burmah at 15½p and British Car Auction at 7p. A put was arranged in Boots at 13p.

Traded options: A total of 1,632 contracts were recorded. Racal attracted 190, Shell 10, M & S 93, Land Securities 87 and Lonrho 114.

Latest results

Int or Fin Company	£m Sales	£m Profits	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
A. C. Cars (F)	4.13(3.65)	0.14*(0.11*)	0.8(5.48)	Nil(0.14)	—	Nil(0.14)
Armstrong (I)	48.8(56.8)	0.74(4.38)	0.8(5.48)	0.55(1.01)	22/5	—(2.73)
A. Beckman (I)	6.37(7.24)	0.69(0.62)	3.8(2.82)	1.95(1.95)	25/5	—(—)
Arthur Bell (I)	137.5(112.8)	9.7(9.2)	15.6(14.8)	2.33(2.12)	7/5	—(6.0)
Bestobell (F)	119.1(106.0)	7.72(6.42)	—(—)	7.1(6.5)	3/6	12.25(11.0)
Brit. Mohair (F)	25.19(25.5)	0.22(1.5)	33.03(8.9)	2.8(—)	15/5	3.77(3.77)
R. Cartwright (F)	8.7(8.8)	0.18(1.1)	4.51(18.08)	2.0(—)	15/5	3.0(4.62)
Church & Co. (F)	32.24(29.3)	1.96(3.1)	28.6(50.8)	5.5(5.0)	10/4	8.0(7.5)
City of Aberdeen (I)	2.53(2.44)	0.23(0.75)	—(—)	4.25(3.18)	14/4	13†(10.91)
Clifford's Dairies (F)	49.4(41.6)	2.15(2.27)	21.9(17.2)	2.75(—)	22/5	4.0(3.0)
Compco Hldgs (I)	—(—)	0.16(0.13)	3.6(4.11)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Eagle Star (F)	664.2(572.5)	65.9(64.3)	—(—)	5.5(4.8)	15/1	10.5(9.0)
Fife Forge (F)	8.27(6.91)	0.5(0.26)	16.41(13.1)	3.0(—)	30/4	4.0(3.3)
Garton (R)	10.9(12.9)	0.12(0.96)	3.22(23.5)	1.0(3.5)	1/7	4.15(6.65)
Percy Lane (F)	19.6(17.4)	0.68(0.16)	11.0(1.8)	2.0(1.0)	1/6	3(1.75)
Metal Closures (F)	65.6(62.3)	5.5(5.8)	16.9(20.4)	3.2(3.2)	—	5.4(5.4)
Prudential (F)	—(—)	42.5‡(45.6‡)	14.2(15.3)	8(6)	—	11(9.5)
Rockware (F)	170(143)	0.47(5.18)	0.29(20.2)	2.10(4.32)	—	2.10(6.65)
Rotork (F)	19.8(19.18)	2.87(3.18)	9.8(8.1)	1.1(—)	—	2.2(2.0)
Sirdar (I)	14.3(12.02)	2.3(1.6)	11.1(8.6)	2.7(2.0)	19/5	—(5.0)
Silkolene (F)	—(—)	0.86(1.07)	14.1(19.5)	3.95(—)	14/5	5.5(5.0)
Slough Est. (F)	—(—)	11.4(10.1)	7.13(5.6)	1.66(1.4)	26/5	2.76(2.3)
W'son Warburton (F)	24.5(23.4)	0.7(0.87)	44.05(15.77)	4.35(—)	2/6	6.29(6.29)
Wolstenholfe (F)	14.6(15.5)	1.13(2.06)	15.18(26.1)	3.25(—)	—	5.75(5.75)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *Loss. †Forecasts. ‡Net.

Arthur Bell tops forecasts with interim rise to £9.7m

By Rosemary Unsworth

Arthur Bell and Sons, the Perthshire distiller, exceeded market expectations with its interim results, pushing the shares up by 6p to 176p.

Pretax profits for the six months to December 31 were £9.7m, a 6.4 per cent improvement on last year's £9.2m. Turnover rose from £112.8m to £127.5m. Although volume was greater than during the same period in 1979, overall 1980 sales were depressed by the duty increases in April.

"Industry sales volume showed a 5 per cent decrease over 1979. Unfortunately this did not deter the Chancellor of the Exchequer from applying a further duty increase this month," Mr Raymond Miquel, the chairman, said.

Export sales were £1.5m *ahead of last year* at £12.9m while the scotch whisky division as a whole improved sales from £101.5m to £127.3m, and produced profits of £10.3m against £8.3m.

The glass container operation, which cost £380,000 in voluntary redundancies, lost £560,000 compared with pretax profit of £871,000 while its turnover dipped *fractionally* to £12.4m. Mr Miquel pointed out that this was a result of a fall in demand for glass containers common to the rest of the industry.


Mr Raymond Miquel, chairman of Arthur Bell and Sons.

But he added that the division was expected to be back into profit by the year end because of the increased demand in the summer for soft drinks.

Towmaster Transport improved its contribution from £11,000 to £70,000 but the result was coupled with a warning that full-year profits would be modest unless there is an improvement in the haulage industry rates as operating costs are rising sharply.

Interest charges rose from £1.6m to £2.7m but the benefits of last year's rights issue, which was 75 per cent taken up by the underwriters, should help to reduce borrowings by the year end.

The interim dividend has been increased from 3.02p to 3.3p gross and Bell is also making a one-for-two scrip issue.

"Indications are that group pretax profit for the second half should exceed last year's £7.65m," Miquel said, but added that home demand had fallen considerably since the Budget.

Profits dip to £5.5m at Metal Closures

By Our Financial Staff

Record overseas earnings at Metal Closures, the packaging manufacturers, prevented a sharp fall in profits last year. Even so pretax profits slipped by 5 per cent from £5.8m to £5.5m in the 12 months to December 31, while turnover rose slightly from £62.3m to £65.6m.

The 77 per cent-owned South African subsidiary was the main contributor to the overseas performance, producing a 56 per cent improvement at the halfway stage to £900,000. But United Kingdom profits were severely depressed by the drastic reduction in consumer demand which accelerated as the year went on.

Mr John Boden, the chairman, said: "As yet, there are no signs of any improvement. The order book continues low and erratic, and with the Budget having imposed additional restrictions on consumer spending, United Kingdom profits will be under still further pressure."

The group made 400 of its 3,000 workforce redundant during the year and the poor summer was another blow for the drink manufacturing side.

The final dividend has been maintained at 4.57p gross, which with the interim gives the same total as last year at 7.71p.

Underwriting losses soar at Eagle Star

By Richard Allen
Insurance Correspondent

A sharp increase in industrial injury claims has produced spiralling underwriting losses at Eagle Star, Britain's biggest insurer of employers' liability.

The group's total loss on general insurance leapt from £18.8m to £32.5m last year and even this figure was struck after the group had drawn £10m from its catastrophe reserve.

Despite the underwriting setback, Eagle Star managed a slight increase in pretax profits from £64.3m to £65.9m, thanks largely to a rise of almost a quarter to £74m in investment income. The group is paying a final dividend of 7.86p gross, taking the total for the year up by almost 17 per cent to 15p gross.

The outcome disappointed the market, which had already been shaken by poor results from Prudential Corporation, and Eagle's share price fell 16p to 242p.

A spokesman said last night that the huge underwriting loss had been struck after the group had increased its special reserve to cover industrial liability claims by £36m to £157m. He said that the liability account had suffered from intense competition restricting premium growth and the effect on claims costs of the recession.

Lack of available jobs has meant that workers injured in one form of employment could not be offered lighter duties elsewhere with a consequent rise in claims for loss of earnings. Eagle Star is also being hit by increasing claims for industrial deafness, sometimes on policies dating back more than 20 years.

Duport preparing circular

By Philip Robinson

A circular outlining the principal changes to troubled Midlands group Duport is likely to go out to shareholders early next week. The group is pulling out of steelmaking by closing its South Wales interests and selling associated steel operations to the British Steel Corporation for around £23m.

The circular, virtually a prospectus to have the shares requoted after they were suspended at 12p a month ago valuing the company at £6m will show the structure of Duport without steel. It will also detail the agreement—yet unsigned—with BSC, give a trading statement and announce the future position of the company.

But it will contain no details of the rumoured capital reconstruction of the group—now left with Grovewood Kitchens, Slumberland beds, Swish curtains and Bridgetown industries.

BP Oil profits in UK fall to £72m

By Our Financial Staff

Operating profits of the United Kingdom refining and marketing operation of BP Oil fell from £155m to £72m in 1980; and on a current cost basis show a £73m loss. The current cost loss in 1979 was £78m.

Sales and operating revenue in 1980 totalled £3,396m against £2,707m. In the last quarter of 1980, the United Kingdom operations were making a historic, as well as a current, cost loss, and the 1981 outlook is "gloomy", thanks to lower industrial demand, surplus refining capacity and intensified competition.

Redundancy and interest costs hit Rockware

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Redundancy costs and soaring interest charges wiped out most of Rockware Group's profits in 1980, leaving only £472,000 pretax compared with a £5.2m profit in 1979.

After United Glass, which reported a turnround to losses of £5.6m pretax last month, Rockware is the second largest glass container maker in the country with about 30 per cent of the market.

Demand for glass containers collapsed from last April onwards as customers destocked. Group turnover rose by 19 per cent to £169.8m but volume in the glass division fell about 9 per cent with supplies to the wines and spirits industry worst hit.

Mr John Craigie, chairman, said that he thought the worst was over but he saw little sign of improved demand. However, he expected Rockware to benefit in 1981 from cost-savings and lower interest rates. He did not expect further massive redundancies.

Poor results and losses in the second half had been expected after the warning which accompanied a recovery in first-half profits from £1.2m to £3.5m pretax. But Rockware is paying a small final dividend and the shares rose 5p to 65p yesterday. The 3p gross dividend—the interim was passed—compares with 9.5p in 1979.

Redundancies of 1,500—about one fifth of its United Kingdom workforce—cost Rockware £3m in exceptional items—£2 more than in the previous year.

The divisional breakdown of profits before interest but after redundancy costs showed the glass division down from £5.9m to £4.4m. This side bore most of the redundancies and the steeply rising costs were not covered by price rises. Rockware is now putting through an 8 per cent price rise.

The drop in plastics from £2.5m to £1.1m was mainly due to a £1m downtown at Alida—the flexible packaging company—and a small overseas loss. The plastic bottle companies held up relatively well in spite of lower demand. The small engineering division recovered from losses of £821,000 to an £89,000 profit, although the trend deteriorated in the second half.

Interest charges were nearly doubled from £2.7m to £5.3m, reflecting higher working capital needs during the year as stocks rose. Rockware reduced stock levels towards the end of the year but borrowings at the year-end were still about £10m higher at £39m compared with shareholders' funds of £61m. Capital spending in 1980 was cut back to below the previous year's £20.4m.

After tax, dividends and other costs, Rockware made a net loss for 1980 of £531,000 compared with a £1.7m profit.

Briefly

Hampton Trust: Consents of operators, Hughes and Hughes of Texas, and of Minister of Mines for the State of Western Australia have not yet been obtained in connection with Hampton's purchase of the 3.5 per cent interest in West Australian oil and gas exploration permit EP 100.

Compco Holdings: Pretax profit for half year to September 25, 1980 £162,000 (£128,000). EPS 3.6p (4.11p). Board expects a similar performance for second half year.

Newbold and Burton Holdings: Mr V. F. Burton, chairman, told annual meeting that although order books are lower than normal at two of group's four companies, and while margins remain very tight, all companys are currently operating profitably.

West Hampshire Water: Offer for sale by tender of £2m 8 per cent redeemable preference stock 1986. Minimum price of issue £102 per cent. Amount of stock applied for was £5.74m. Lowest price to obtain a partial allotment was £102.25.

Kean and Scott: Newsam Investments have an interest in 331,500 shares (8.77 per cent).

Jamaica Sugar Estates: Offer by Mr Nicholas de Savary has become unconditional. Offer accepted in respect of 22,577 shares (0.7 per cent) which with shares held by him and his associates amount to 1.62m shares (50.1 per cent).

Wolstenholme Rink: Turnover for 1980 £14.66m (£15.52m). Pretax profit £1.13m (£2.06m). EPS 15.18p (26.1p). Dividend total 5.75p net (same).

Clifford's Dairies: Turnover for 1980 £49.5m (£41.63m). Pre-tax profit £2.12m (£2.27m). EPS 21.9gp ('7.22p). Dividend 4.0p (3.0p) net. Lca pre-tax profit £1.71m (£1.86m).

Dares Estates has exchanged conditional contracts for acquisition by alifornia subsidiary Dares Realty of whole of issued share capital of, and certain loan notes issued by North San Diego Land Inc, a California corporation, for $878,639.

Negretti and Zambra: Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation yesterday acquired 40,000 ordinary shares in Negretti at 24½p. ICFC, an associate of Negretti intends to assent these shares to the offer from Western Scientific Investments.

Wilkinson Warburton: Sales £24.5m for 1980 (£23.4m). Pretax profit £719.504 (£879,000). Dividend held at 8.98p gross. EPS 44.05p (15.77p).

Fife Forge: Turnover for 1980 £8.27m (£6.91m). Pretax profit £502,500 (£269,000). Eps 16.41p (13.70p). Dividend 5.71p gross (4.7p gross). Cca pretax profit £357,000.

A. Beckman: Pretax profits for half year to Dec 31, 1980, up from £626,000 to £695,000 on turnover down from £7.24m to £6.37m.

Paringa Mining & Exploration: has paid $A450,000 and allotted 450,000 shares at A$1.25 each for the whole of Deremet, an Australian gold mining company with leases in New South Wales.

Pyke (Holdings): No interim (same). Turnover for half year to December 31, £3.82m (£4.15m). Pretax profit £42,000 (£10,000). Eps 2.22p (0.64p).

هكذا من الأصل

FINANCIAL NEWS

Brit Mohair down 85pc with tough year ahead

The recession slashed profits of British Mohair Spinners by 85 per cent from £1.5m to £228,000 in 1980, and after adjusting for inflation there was a loss of £510,000. However, after adding a tax credit and a release of deferred tax, the group had attributable profits of £3.7m against £1.1m.

Earnings a share were therefore up from 8.9p to 33p but the dividend was held at 5.38p gross.

Mr J. A. Clough, the chairman, says that 1981 looks like being another difficult year. On a brighter note he says that the parts of the group not involved in worsted spinning have traded well and show greater potential for expansion in the future.

No dividend from AC Cars

AC Cars, reporting a deficit for the second year running, is not paying an ordinary dividend for the 12 months to September 30, 1980, compared with 0.2p gross for the preceding year.

Turnover expanded from £3.65m to £4.12m, but the after-tax loss increased from £117,500 to £143,300. However, with a profit of £892,000 from extraordinary items—compared with a profit of £29,000 last time—AC has a net surplus of £764,000, against a loss of £100,000.

Profits tumble at R Cartwright

Last year, pretax profits of R. Cartwright (Holdings), makers of door and window furniture, etc, slumped to £185,000, compared with 1979's record figure of £1.13m. Turnover slipped from £8.8m to £8.72m. Under C.C.A. there is a pretax loss for 1980 of £206,000, compared with a 1979 profit of £779,000.

The total dividend is being cut from 6.6p to 4.28p gross.

C H Pearce agrees acquisition

C. H. Pearce and Sons has agreed in principle to acquire British Shipbuilders's wholly-owned subsidiary R. Harris and Sons (Builders) for £457,000 and the immediate repayment of a £750,000 loan made by British Shipbuilders to Harris. The net book value of the assets being acquired is £443,000.

Pretax profit of Harris for the year to March 31 was £363,000 and for the 11 months to February 28 the total is not expected to be less than £360,000.

Aberdeen Land down sharply in first half

Taxable profits of City of Aberdeen Land Association slumped from £756,000 to £232,000 in the half year to December 31. However for the full year profits are expected to reach £850,000 despite the absence of last year's exceptional property profits which help the total to reach £1.05m.

The interim dividend is raised from 4.54p gross to 6.07p.

Caparo offer for CMT unconditional

Caparo's offer for Central Manufacturing and Trading group has become unconditional. Its total stake is now some 50.06 per cent of the equity.

Acceptances of the offer were received in respect of 18,000 shares (0.07 per cent).

Before the offer, Caparo held 5.68m shares (21.48 per cent) and during offer period has acquired a further 7.53m (28.51 per cent).

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co ..	*12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster ..	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 9%, up to £50,000 9½%, over £50,000 10½%.

Change of strategy boosts Bestobell

By Margareta Pagano

Bestobell's concentration over the last year on the fast-growing aviation industries and on consolidating growth sectors at home and overseas has paid off.

A 20.3 per cent advance in pretax profits in the year to December 31 to £7.72m was made against £6.42m last time. Sales at the controls, energy engineering, aviation and consumer products group were 12.3 per cent up at £119.1m, against £106m. The final dividend is lifted by 11.4 per cent to 10.14p gross, making a total payment of 17.5p gross. This compares with 15.7p gross in 1979.

Trading continued the improvement seen in 1979 when profits rose by a third and Bestobell defended itself against a bid from BTR, which now holds a 23.1 per cent stake.

It reflects the strategy over the last year of consolidation and shifting resources into potential growth areas while improving cash flow in others facing decline.

Mr Sandy Marshall, the chairman, said yesterday that despite the difficult economic climate the group had improved trading overall and seen a marked strengthening of the balance sheet. Gearing is down to 36 per cent from 46 per cent in 1979. The sale of Bestobell's former headquarters, Stoke House, released £1.8m which has gone to reduce borowings.

Overall growth had been modest, Mr Marshall said, with trading and profit margins in the United Kingdom improving in the second half with the fall in inflation. Trading profit was up 22 per cent at £9.8m. The two overseas companies, in southern Africa and Australia, showed significant growth. A split of the profits contribution from United Kingdom and overseas activities is not yet available but is estimated at about 50-50. The total value of export sales was £12.5m, 25 per cent of United Kingdom sales, and a 35 per cent increase over 1979.

Dr D. Denny, head of Bestobell Aviations Products, said profits from overseas and home aviation components had grown by 27 per cent over 1979. Orders have been received for the next two years and above-average growth is expected again this year. Last year the division added the Avica group to its fold.

Some 50 per cent of aviation products are exported from Britain.



Mr Sandy Marshall, chairman of Bestobell.

Church pays more despite 37 pc fall in profits

By Our Financial Staff

Northampton-based shoe manufacturer and retailer Church & Company made £1.96m pretax last year, 37 per cent less than in 1979. High interest rates and "indifferent" trading conditions are blamed.

The final dividend has been raised 10 per cent, however, leaving the total payout 6.66 per cent higher at 11.4p gross for the year to December 31. The shares rose 7p to 165p yesterday.

The group's trading profits fell 32 per cent to £2.73m, and interest costs rose 54.3 per cent to £776,000. The group's wholly owned subsidiary, A. Jones & Sons, suffered a £492,000 decline to £1.13m in its profits before tax, but paid maintained dividends worth £236,000 to its parent company.

Church's current cost profit before tax of £1.07m is worked out using a trade index which the board, chaired by Mr Ian Church, considers shows too poor a picture of Church. Current cost earnings per share of 12.8p leave the net dividend 1.6 times covered.

Armstrong Equipment slumps in first half

By Catherine Gunn

The steep fall in demand for automotive products, components for white goods and fastenings slashed profits at Armstrong Equipment to just £741,000 before tax at its December 28 interim stage, against £4.4m a year earlier. The interim dividend has been halved to 0.785p gross. The shares fell 2½p to 42½p yesterday.

Prospects are a little brighter in the second half even if demand does not recover, thanks to a stringent programme of destocking and redundancies embarked on earlier this year. Last year Armstrong made £8m pretax.

Mr Harry Hooper, the chairman, said yesterday that if demand recovered by 50 per cent, the slimmer group could be very profitable. But the outlook for the light engineering industry remained uncertain, he said. Turnover fell by 14.1 per cent to £48.9m in the first half.

Mr Hooper said that the bulk of a 34 per cent rise in interest costs to £2.26m in the first half, reflected higher interest rates, though borrowings rose a little from the June year-end net figure of £20.5m. Stocks stood at £43.7m then, and Armstrong has since embarked on a stock-cutting programme to reduce inventories by £20m at the rate of £1m a month. It hopes to resume expansion programmes next year.

However, redundancies cost the group £2.42m by the interim stage with more to come this half. Most of those came from the British workforce, though the loss-making French operation was also trimmed back. Overseas operations produced £850,000 profit in total with most of them doing well. Eur group trading profits were halved, at £3m. Armstrong Fastenings produced £500,000 and Cornercroft performed "a bit worse, but still did quite well".

Though most of the group's operations have been hard hit by the recession, its small aerospace side saw turnover rise to about £2m. This business will be developed over the next decade. But Mr Hooper's expansion plans just now centre on Spain, where the group is doing well supplying the Ford Motor company, and in motorbikes at home, where three recent acquisitions have given Armstrong the expertise to produce and race a range of racing bikes, with an eye to making motorbikes for the ordinary road user within two years.

600 Group lifts stake in Pratt to 26.9pc

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The 600 Group has raised its stake in F. Pratt Engineering to 26.9 per cent, including options to buy further shares. The shares came from family holdings of Mr Anthony Galliers-Pratt, who stepped down as Pratt's chairman in February and is now president.

Earlier this month the 600 Group, which has close business links with Pratt, bought 690,000 shares in Pratt at 122½p, giving it a 12.7 per cent holding. The seller was Mr John Bentley's Bardsey, which had made an unsuccessful market raid on Pratt and expressed interest in making a bid. After the sale of Pratt's retail optical subsidiary for £4.5m and the sharp rise in its shares, Bardsey changed its mind.

Pratt is strategically important to the 600 Group, as exclusive supplier of chucks for the 600 Group's centre lathes. The 600 Group has been moving to protect this interest, although Sir Jack Wellings, chairman, reiterated yesterday that there was no "present intention" of making a bid.

The 600 Group is paying 107p for 257,125 of the Galliers-Pratt shares and has an option to buy another 520,600 at the same price. The option, which lapses on July 31, will definitely be taken up, Sir Jack said.

Pratt's new chairman, Mr William Friggens, said he was not forewarned about this latest deal but he welcomed the 600 Group's shareholding. He did not expect a full bid.

Maurice James Industries, headed by recently appointed Pratt director Mr Maurice James, has also been buying Pratt shares. It disclosed a 250,000 (4.6 per cent) stake bought at 108p on March 11 and 13. In February Mr James bought 115,000 shares at between 60p and 90p.

The Stock Exchange is holding a preliminary inquiry into dealings in Pratt shares in February—the period covering the market raid and sale of a subsidiary.

International

Deutsche Babcock tumbles

Deutsche Babcock, the West German metal products and industrial equipment group, said yesterday that net group profits fell to DM24.1m (£5.2m) in the year to last September 30 from DM40.9m the year before. Turnover rose to DM4,980m from DM4,420m.

Looking to this year, the group said it feared an increase in the political and economic risks of foreign business, which accounted for 54 per cent of incoming orders last year.

Cuts in West German state spending could also affect results, particularly in the power station sector where the outlook was uncertain because of delays in authorizing projects, the group said.

It plans to concentrate on developing energy-saving processes, coal-fired power stations and coal gasfication projects.

Hiram Walker note

Hiram Walker Holdings is floating a £25m, five-year note issue bearing 14 per cent annually through a Eurobond syndicate led by S. G. Warburg.

The notes, due on April 15, 1986, will be guaranteed by Walker Home Oil, a Canadian-based holding company that accounts for the energy and whisky operations of Hiram Walker.

Final terms, including the issue price, will be fixed March 31. The notes are not callable and will not be amortized.

P and O Australia issue

P and O Australia, 75 per cent owned by Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation of the United Kingdom, said it will make a one-for-three share issue to raise $19.99m (£8.32m).

The $8.33m new one-dollar shares will be issued at a premium of $1.40 each and will rank for dividends paid from earnings in the current half year to June 30.

Eastern Produce acquisition

Eastern Produce (Holdings), the tea plantation-to-insurance broking group, has bought a £1m 29.9 per cent stake in Unochrome Industries, the metal finishing and heat treatment group.

Eastern paid 21p a share to Camellia Investments.

Garton cuts payout as profits continue to fall

By Michael Clark

After announcing its fourth consecutive downturn in annual profits, Garton Engineering has been forced to reduce its final payment for the first time in its history.

Pre-tax profits for 1980 show a fall of £738,000 to £125,000 on turnover reduced by £1.92m to £10.9m. This has cut earnings per share drastically from 23.54p to 3.22p. After paying an unchanged interim dividend of 4.5p gross the board is now recommending a final dividend of 1.42p, making a total of 5.9p against 9.5p last time.

Mr Aubrey Garton, chairman, blames the fall on an across-the-board downturn in all the group's activities caused by the severe fall off in United Kingdom industrial activity and the high value of the pound.

Mr Garton declined to comment on progress during the first quarter. He said that any improvement would depend on subsequent fall in interest rates and sterling. Demand, he added, remained very poor and there was no significant improvement in view yet.

News of the shortfall in profits saw the share price tumble 4p to a new low of 40p.

During this period, the group undertook a substantial rationalization programme which resulted in the closure of two small units and the loss of 450 jobs from its 1000-strong workforce. The redundancies cost around £300,000, which was taken out below the line, but has meant a return to full-time working. Short-time working began in June last year.

At present, stock levels are valued at £4.2m with finished materials accounting for £2.5m, an increase of £300,000 on the corresponding period. Borrowing stand at £1.5m or around 30 per cent of shareholders funds.

Northern Mining's hidden appeal

Mining

While attention has been focused on the multi-billion dollar bids galvanizing Wall Street, Australia has been host to some manoeuvring of its own. A great deal of interest surrounds a small company called Northern Mining, and, as is characteristic of the Australian mining scene, the picture is highly complex.

Northern Mining is a typical exploration company, living on hope as much as earnings. It has made a loss in most of the years since its foundation in 1969, although modest profits have been earned recently. Northern has never paid a dividend, and has raised capital by share placements, later rewarding shareholders with another higher-priced issue.

Yet in recent weeks the share price has moved up strongly on persistent rumours of a takeover. Yesterday the shares were fetching about $A2.80, which capitalized the company at $A48m (£24m).

The rumours were proved largely correct. Endeavour Resources, another exploration company, in which the powerful and fast growing Bond Corporation, headed by the Western Australian entrepreneur Mr Alan Bond, holds 40 per cent, took a 10 per cent placement of Northern shares and then raised its stake to just under 20 per cent. The operation cost $A8.97m.

Innocent enough, you might think. But it transpired that another party was interested in Northern, the National Mutual Life Association of Australia. This institution has a taste for the more speculative end of the mining market—rather a contrast to City counterparts—and was partly responsible for relisting Poseidon, as well as making a bid for BH South.

National Mutual bought a sizable line of Northern shares from Mitchell Cotts, the British trading and plantations group, last October. The stake was built up to 10.5 per cent, although a couple of weeks ago it was reduced to 9.5 per cent.

The discovery of this holding prompted Mr Rees Towie, Northern's chairman, to offer the blocking placement of 10 per cent to his opposite number at Endeavour, Mr Eric Webb.

Undeterred, National Mutual is reported to have been in the market again for Northern shares.

So what is Northern's attraction? It is simply a modest 5 per cent stake in the Ashton Joint Venture, the developer of the Argyle diamond deposit in Western Australia. The dominant partner in Ashton is Conzinc Riotinto of Australia, controlled by RTZ, which has 56.8 per cent. Ashton Mining has 24.2 per cent, AO (Australia) 4.9 per cent, and Tanaust, part of Tanks, 9.1 per cent.

Despite scrupulously issued quarterly reports about progress at Argyle, the partners in the venture are widely and increasingly suspected in Australia of underplaying the deposit's potential. There has been speculation that the venture will decide later this year to go ahead with a full mining project. If the venture were to choose to instal plant capable of meeting the deposit's full potential immediately rather than building up gradually, the cost could be $A300m.

Northern's share would be $A15m over about three years, more than the company can currently afford. That, combined with the assumption of high profits from Argyle, make Northern ripe for a takeover.

But it does not mean that Mr Bond will be the one to acquire Northern. It would be typical of the man to amass a strategic stake just to force another bidder to offer a higher price. National Mutual thinks the same way.

Australia's mining entrepreneurs have little to learn from Wall Street.

Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	64	—	6.7	10.5	5.8
50	21	Armitage & Rhodes	50	—	1.4	2.8	20.6
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	93	—	5.5	5.9	4.6
126	88	Frank Horsell	107	—	6.4	6.0	3.4
110	39	Frederick Parker	48	—	1.7	3.5	20.9
110	73	George Blair	73	—	3.1	4.2	—
110	59	Jackson Group	107	—	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	118	—	7.9	6.7	9.7
334	244	Robert Jenkins	325	—	31.3	9.6	—
55	50	Scruttons "A"	51	—	5.3	10.4	3.7
224	215	Torday Limited	215	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	9	Twinlock Ord	9	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	46	—	3.0	6.5	7.1
103	81	Walter Alexander	100	—	5.7	5.7	5.5
263	181	W. S. Yeates	260	—	12.1	4.7	4.2

Business appointments

Changes at N M Rothschild

Mr Michael Richardson will become a director and head of corporate finance at N. M. Rothschild & Sons on June 1 with the title of managing director. He will retire from the partnership of Cazenove & Company on April 30. Mr John Craig will become the managing director in charge of banking division; Mr Nicolas McAndrew will become the managing director in charge of investment division, Mr John Loudon will become the managing director in charge of overseas operations and Mr David Secker Walker will become a vice-chairman. Mr Anthony Alt, Mr Alan Dean, Mr Russell Edey, Mr Stuart McDonald, Mr Paul Myners, Mr Roger Salmon and Mr Gordon Young will join the board on April 1.

Mr Ron Worden is the new National Westminster Bank representative in Sydney. Since 1979 he has been an assistant regional manager in the Asia and Australasia regional office based in London. He succeeds Mr Roger Bartin who returns to the United Kingdom on completion of his tour of duty.

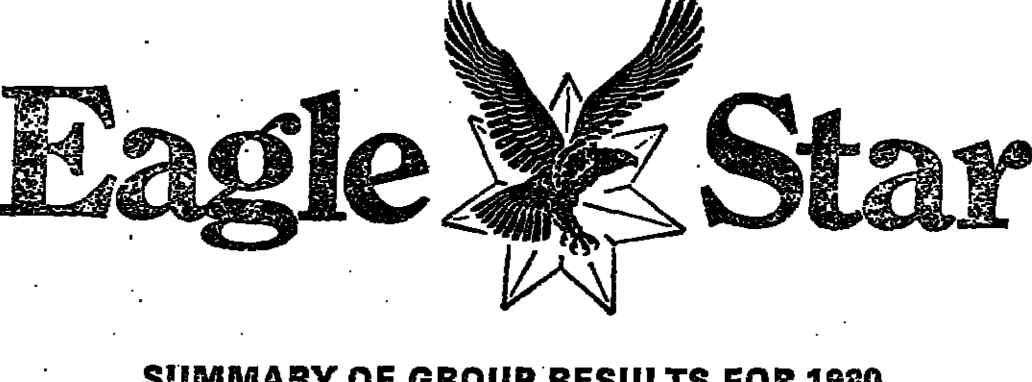
Mr Alan Woltz has been appointed managing director of LRC International. He has been president of LRC's North American division and the group's chief operating officer since November, 1979. Mr John Forsyth, the managing director of LRC's European Division, who joined the group in 1967, becomes deputy managing director of LRC International.

Mr G. A. Hazard is to join the board of Pentos. Mr W. T. Sanders is resigning from the board to take up an appointment abroad.

Mr David H. I. Jenkins has been appointed sales director of Kwik-Fit-Euro.

Mr John Coldman has become an associate director of Greig Fester.

Mr D. John Ogren has become director and general manager, southern operations, for Conoco UK. He replaces Mr Phil Zuganich, who has been promoted and transferred to Houston, Texas.



SUMMARY OF GROUP RESULTS FOR 1980

DIVIDENDS. The Directors are recommending to the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 8th May 1981 a final dividend of 5.5p per share payable on 15th July 1981 to shareholders on the register as at the close of business on 16th June 1981. With the interim dividend of 5.0p per share which was paid on 15th January 1981 the total dividend for the year will be 10.5p per share (1979: 9.0p). The total cost of these dividends will be £14.3m.

RESULTS. Investment income in the shareholders' fund increased by 24 per cent to £73.8m. Pre-tax profits of Grovewood Securities were £14.4m and with the share of associated companies' results brought the total income from investments to £88.1m (1979: £73.9m). Shareholders' long term profits were £11.8m after grossing up for income tax and corporation tax. General insurance underwriting made a loss of £32.5m (1979: £18.8m) after a transfer from catastrophe reserve of £10m. General business premium income increased by 11 per cent. Overall pre-tax profits were £65.9m against £64.3m in 1979.



Sir Denis Mountain, Bt., Chairman.

		1980 £m		1979 £m
PREMIUM INCOME				
Fire, accident and motor	422.4		376.7	
Marine, aviation and transport	20.1	442.5	20.4	397.1
Long term—annual premiums	149.6		119.4	
—single premiums	72.1	221.7	56.0	175.4
		664.2		572.5

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT		1980 £m		1979 £m
Investment income*		73.8		59.7
Profits of Grovewood Securities		14.4		13.2
Share of associated companies' results		(0.1)		1.0
Shareholders' long term profits		11.8		10.5
Underwriting loss		(32.5)		(18.8)
Expenses not charged to other accounts		(1.5)		(1.3)
Surplus after transfer from catastrophe reserve		65.9		64.3
Taxation		25.6		25.5
Minority interests		3.2		3.1
Net surplus for year available for appropriation		37.1		35.7
Staff profit sharing scheme	1.4		1.1	
Less taxation	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
		36.4		35.2
Transfer to catastrophe reserve		2.0		2.0
Dividends		14.3		12.1
Balance added to retained profits and reserves		20.1		21.1

*After deducting £2.1m in respect of interest on loan notes (1979: nil).

GENERAL COMMENTS. 1980 has been a most difficult year for insurance and in nearly all general accounts, both in the UK and overseas, the unsatisfactory results can be accounted for by intense competition and inflation. Additionally international and overseas results have been affected by the strength of sterling. Furthermore, world-wide industrial recession has restricted the premium growth necessary to cover the ever increasing costs of running the business. Intense competition in the UK has particularly affected the liability account.

INVESTMENTS. Investment income increased by 24 per cent. This most satisfactory result was assisted by the high interest rates obtainable throughout the year.

The free reserves of the group, including capital appreciation on investments other than those of the long-term insurance funds, amounted to 85 per cent of general insurance business premium income.

GENERAL INSURANCE. *Our overall result is analysed by territory in the following table which includes an estimate of that part of investment income which arises on insurance funds:—*

	Premium income £m	Underwriting result £m	Investment income less expenses £m	1980 Total £m	1979 Total £m
United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland*	349.4	(25.3)**	46.8	21.5	23.1
Australia	18.7	(3.0)	1.3	(1.7)	(0.9)
Belgium	24.1	(2.2)	3.2	1.0	0.6
South Africa	36.2	0.6	1.9	2.5	3.4
USA	5.8	(0.1)	0.5	0.4	0.6
Other territories	8.3	(1.7)	1.3	(0.4)	0.5
Additional provision for unexpired risks (overseas business)		(0.8)		(0.8)	(0.1)
	442.5	(32.5)	55.0	22.5	27.2
Attributable to shareholders' funds			31.6	31.6	26.6
		(32.5)	86.6	54.1	53.8

*including reinsurance and world-wide marine and aviation.
**after transfer from catastrophe reserve.

UNITED KINGDOM. Premium income increased by 15 per cent to £297m (1979: £257m). 1980 was an exceptionally difficult year for all classes of business in the UK with an overall underwriting loss of £25.0m (1979: £16.1m). After taking investment income on the funds into account the overall profit was £13.0m (1979: £14.1m). The fire account after a number of profitable years made a small underwriting loss of £0.7m (1979: profit £2.5m). In the "all-in" account there was a much reduced underwriting loss of £4.2m (1979: £6.4m). Although the claims frequency improved in the motor account this was partially offset by the increase in the average claims cost. The underwriting loss on the account of £5.9m (1979: £10.1m) showed a considerable improvement. Premium growth in the liability account suffered particularly from extreme competition and the downturn in the economy. The low rate of growth combined with an unprecedented increase in the levels of claims cost produced a loss of £13.1m (1979: £2.6m). A number of influences are contributing to the sharp increase in claims costs. In 1980 these have had a serious effect not only on current experience but also on claims outstanding from earlier years with the result that provisions for these claims require strengthening. We have therefore thought it prudent in the circumstances to increase these provisions by transferring £10m from the catastrophe reserve.

MARINE AND AVIATION. The 1977 account, closed at the end of 1980, produced a surplus but in view of the trend in later years it has been retained in the fund. In addition it has been considered prudent to give the fund further support by a transfer of £0.5m from profit and loss account. At the end of the year the fund amounted to £31.6m. This is 157 per cent of premium income.

OVERSEAS. There was a reduction in the overall underwriting profit to £1.0m (1979: £4.1m). In Australia there was an increased loss. Underwriting results in Belgium showed a welcome improvement. South Africa again made a profit on underwriting although much less than in previous years. In the USA our relatively small but growing account produced a satisfactory result.

LIFE. World-wide new business produced new annual premiums of £38.8m (1979: £29.7m) and single premiums and considerations for annuities amounted to £72.1m (1979: £56.0m). The annual valuation of the UK life funds has again resulted in increased bonuses to policyholders. Profits transferred to the shareholders' account were £6.9m (1979: £6.0m) net of tax, with a grossed-up value of £11.7m (1979: £10.2m) and with transfers in respect of non-UK subsidiaries the total amount was £11.8m.

GROVEWOOD SECURITIES LIMITED. Despite the severe trade recession Grovewood Securities achieved a record profit for the thirteenth consecutive year, pre-tax profit rising to £14.4m (1979: £13.2m).

Copies of the Report and Accounts for 1980 and the Chairman's Statement will be sent to shareholders on 10th April 1981.

Eagle Star Holdings Limited

1, Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8BE

Commodities

COPPER bars were steady yesterday, while cathodes were idle.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £823-24.00 a metric ton; three months, £846.50-47.00. Sales, 9,425. Cash cathodes, £816-18.00; three months, £834-35.00. Sales, Nil tons. Morning.—Cashwire bars, £824.50-25.00; three months £847.50-48.00. Settlement, £826.00. Sales, 6,750 tons. Cash cathodes, £818.50-19.00, three months, £835-36.00. Settlement, £819.00. Sales, 500 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was steady, quiet; high-grade was idle.—Afternoon.—Standard, cash, £6075-85 a tonne; three months, £6180-85. Sales, 313 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6075-85; three months, £6180-85. Sales, Nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard, cash, £6075-80; three months, £6180-90. Settlement, £6080. Sales, 375 tonnes. High Grade, cash, £6075-80; three months, £6180-90. Settlement, £6080. Sales, Nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works slipped by two cents yesterday to 30.67 ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £319.50-20.00 per tonne; three months, £326.50-27. Sales 33,700 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £322.50-23.50; three months, £330-31.00. Settlement, £323.50. Sales, 10,750 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £357-58.00 per tonne; three months, £346-46.50. Sales, 3,025 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £357.50-58.00; three months, £346.50-47.00. Settlement, £358.00. Sales, 5,450 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £232.85 ($526.25) a troy ounce.

SILVER was easier yesterday.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 577.85p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1308.00); three months, 593.15p (1335.70c); six months, 611.60p (1402.00c); one year 640.00p (1501.80c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 570-72.0p; three months 588-89.0p. Sales, 40 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 576-78.0p; three months, 594-95.0p. Settlement, 578.0p. Sales, 121 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £633.50-34.50 per tonne; three months, £642-42.50. Sales, 2,450 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £636-37.00; three months, £642.50-43.00. Settlement, £637.00. Sales 2,650 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2800-15 per tonne; three months, £3777-80. Sales 103 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2800-10; three months, £3775-85. Settlement, £2810. Sales, 66 tonnes.

RUBBER closed hesitant after being steady (pence per kilo):—Apl, 54.60-54.70. May, 55.40-56.00. Apl June, 55.90-56.00; July Sept, 60.10-60.20; Oct Dec, 63.10-63.20; Jan March, 66.00-66.10; Apl June, 69.00-69.10; July Sept, 71.90-72.00; Oct Dec, 74.80-74.90. Sales: 36 lots at five tonnes each and 611 lots at 15 tonnes each.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet (all pence per kilo): Spot 53.50-54.50. Cif's: April, expired; May, 58.25-58.75; June, 59.00-59.75.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): March, 1,049-1,050; May, 1,063-1,064; July, 1,055-1,058; Sept, 1,056-1,058; Nov, 1,054-1,056; Jan, 1,050-1,058; March, 1,040-1,060. Sales: 6,839 lots, including 15 options.

ARABICA (officials at 16.45): April 145.00-145.00; June, 143.00-144.50; Aug, 143.00-145.00; Oct, 143.00-145.00; Dec, 142.00-147.00; Feb, 138.00-147.00; April, 137.00-147.00. Sales nil.

COCOA was steady yesterday (£ per metric ton): March, 868-870. May, 926-928; July, 953-961; Sept, 972-975; Dec, 995-996; March, 1,016-1,018; May, 1,033-1,035. Sales: 2,114 lots, including two options.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £10.00 higher at £351; the "whites" price was £4.00 higher at £276. Futures (£ per tonne): May, 247.80-48.00; Aug, 243.75-44.00; Oct, 237.80-38.00; Jan, 222.50-24.00; March, 221.80-22.00; May, 231.25-21.75; Aug, 230.30-21.25. Sales: 7,762 lots. Closing tone: Steady. ISA prices (March 24): daily, 22.87c; 15-day average, 21.67c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet yesterday (£ per tonne).—April, 124.50-124.60; June, 126.50-126.50; Aug, 128.30-128.50; Oct 130.20-130.40; Dec, 131.00-132.50; Feb, 132.50-135.00; April, 133.00-137.00. Sales: 70 lots.

WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds, No 2 contract, cents per kilo (quiet).—March, 336-355; May, 349-355; Aug, 350-360; Oct, 359-366; Dec, 369-374; Jan, 376-378; March, 380-384; May, 380-384; Aug, 382-389. Sales: 35 lots.

GRAIN.—(The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. United States dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent: unquoted. United States hard winter, 13½ per cent: March, £102.75; April, £102.50; May, £101.50 trans-shipment east coast. EEC, unquoted. English feed, fob: May, £117; June, £118 traded east coast.

MAIZE.—United States-French: first-half April, £133 trans-shipment east coast. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow: March-April, £87.00 seller.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: April, £104; May-July, £104.75 east coast. All per tonne cif United Kingdom unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta): EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was steady.—May, £100.10; Sept, £94.15; Nov, £97.65; Jan, £101.25. Sales: 86 lots. **WHEAT** was steady.—May, £113.15; July, £116.50; Sept, £99.30; Nov, £102.75; Jan, £106.65. Sales: 146 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices.

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	—	£113.70	£97.00
C Midlands	£113.00	£110.30	£97.80
N East	—	—	£99.10
Scotland	—	—	£95.40

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock *prices at representative markets on* March 25.—**GB**: Cattle, 90.02p per kg lw (+1.27). UK: Sheep, 181.19p per kg est d c w (+8.77). **GB**: Pigs, 71.70p per kg lw (+0.55). **England and Wales**: Cattle nos up 10.8 per cent, ave price, 90.37p (+1.43). Sheep nos down 5.9 per cent, ave price, 184.56p (+11.57). Pig nos down 9.8 per cent, ave price, 71.70p (+0.55). **Scotland**: Cattle nos up 13.4 per cent, ave price, 88.12p (+0.74). Sheep nos down 41.4 per cent, ave price, 168.20p (−1.06).

POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £53.30; Nov, £56.80; Feb, £66.40. Sales: 268 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

Tin group to discuss winding-up session

Geneva, March 25.—Mr Peter Lai, chairman of the UN Tin Conference, today convened a select group of delegates to discuss procedures for winding-up an abortive three-week negotiating session.

The group comprised the United States, Canada, the EEC, Japan and the Soviet Union on the consumer side, joined by Malaysia and Indonesia among the producers.

Conference sources said the group had so far failed to reach any conclusion about the prospects for agreeing on a tin pact. They were now discussing how to wind-up the current three-week session, due to finish on Friday.

Mr Lai was quoted by delegates as saying it was a question of how to resolve a "messy situation", in which many delegates were confused about the positions of major participants.

Delegates added that it now looked possible for Mr Lai to drop a United Nations-backed idea that the International Tin Council should discuss member—governments' tin supply-and demand policies.

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat Index on European share prices was put provisionally at 151.55 on March 24 against 153.59 a week earlier.

Discount market

Disputes with the civil servants and banking staffs continued to bedevil the money markets yesterday. They made for mounting caution by banks and discount houses alike, with underlying factors and early indicators becoming increasingly unreliable as *pointers to actual market conditions.* Rates opened rather uncertainly in the area of 12—11¾ per cent and they stayed within that band for much of the session. The close proved rather patchy,

Foreign exchange report

The dollar staged a recovery on foreign exchange markets yesterday helped by higher Eurodeposit trends. Sterling, meanwhile overshadowed to some extent by the civil servants' union threat to step up their strike action, lost some headway, closing 30 points easier at $2.2630, compared with $2.2660 on Tuesday night. The pound's trade-weighted index, after briefly improving at noon to 100.7, closed *unchanged at 100.6.*

At one stage during the mid-session sterling plumbed to $2.2585. The dollar, after Tuesday's decline that had stemmed from the unexpected lower prime rate moves, soon mounted a recovery, as the D-mark, worried about the heightening crisis in Poland, came under pressure.

The German currency closed at 2.0855, compared with 2.0815, after 2.0940 at one stage. Swiss francs cheapened at 1.9027 (1.8947), as did the French franc at 4.9182 (4.9045), the guilder, 2.3100 (2.3050) and the yen, 208.80 (208.50).

Elsewhere, the decision by Belgium to raise the discount rate by one point to 13 per cent, left the rate at 34.19 against the dollar from 34.12 on Tuesday.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 25	Market rates (close) March 25	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2520-2695	$2.2625-2635	0.10-0.20c disc	1.10-1.20c disc
Montreal	$2.6670-6855	$2.6745-6755	1.15-1.25c disc	2.80-2.95c disc
Amsterdam	5.21-26fl	5.22¾-23¾fl	1½-½c prem	3¼-2¾c prem
Brussels	77.30-60f	77.35-45f	10-30c disc	42-52c disc
Copenhagen	14.82-88k	14.82½-83½k	95-245ore disc	620-805ore disc
Dublin	1.2925-3000p	1.2935-2945p	16-27p disc	52-67p disc
Frankfurt	4.70½-74½m	4.71½-72½m	½pf prem-½pf disc	¾pf prem-¼pf disc
Lisbon	127.20-90e	127.50-70e	15c prem-60c disc	5-185c disc
Madrid	191.60-192.30p	192.00-30p	35-85c disc	205-285c disc
Milan	2351-60lr	2351½-53½lr	14½-16½lr disc	47½-51½lr disc
Oslo	12.12½-17½k	12.13¼-14¼k	80ore prem-40ore disc	175-25ore prem
Paris	11.11-15f	11.13½-14½f	1½-½c prem	¾c prem-¼c disc
Stockholm	10.33-37k	10.34-35k	305-375ore disc	1030-1130ore disc
Tokyo	470-75y	472.73y	1.65-1.15y prem	5.30-4.60y prem
Vienna	33.35-55sch	33.48-63sch	6-2gro prem	13-3gro prem
Zurich	4.28½-31½f	4.30¼-31¼f	2¼-1¼c prem	5¼-4¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 100.6 unchanged.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9295-1.9445
Bahrein	0.8530-0.8560
Finland	9.1140-9.1540
Greece	114.40-118.40
Hongkong	11.9340-11.9740
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6190-0.6220
Malaysia	5.1515-5.1815
Mexico	52.90-54.40
New Zealand	2.4400-2.4600
Saudi Arabia	7.5750-7.6050
Singapore	4.7300-4.7600
South Africa	1.7875-1.8025

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	100.6	−26.1
US dollar	99.5	−4.7
Canadian dollar	85.8	−17.5
Schilling	116.9	+22.8
Belgian franc	108.2	+9.7
Danish kroner	90.0	−10.1
Deutsche mark	121.4	+40.8
Swiss franc	135.8	+75.3
Guilder	113.8	+15.6
French franc	87.2	−9.3
Lira	50.7	−54.9
Yen	145.0	+40.9

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7460-1.7480
+ Canada	1.1837-1.1840
Netherlands	2.3080-2.3120
Belgium	34.18-34.21
Denmark	6.5675-6.5725
West Germany	2.0850-2.0860
Portugal	56.40-56.55
Spain	*84.84-84.89*
Italy	1039-100
Norway	5.3700-5.3750
France	4.9175-4.9200
Sweden	4.5725-4.5775
Japan	208.70-208.90
Austria	14.79-14.80
Switzerland	1.9020-1.9035

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8451-0.8454

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%

(Last changed 10/3/81)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 12 — Low 11

Week Fixed: 12

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	11⅝	2 months	11½
3 months	11⁹⁄₁₆	3 months	11½

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	11²³⁄₃₂-11²¹⁄₃₂	3 months	12⅝
3 months	11¹¹⁄₁₆-11⁹⁄₁₆	4 months	12¼
4 months	11⅝-11½	6 months	12
6 months	11²¹⁄₃₂-11¹⁷⁄₃₂		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	13¾-13½	7 months	12⅞-12⅝
2 months	13½-13¼	8 months	12⅞-12⅝
3 months	13-12¾	9 months	12¾-12½
4 months	12¾-12½	10 months	12¾-12½
5 months	13-12¾	11 months	12¾-12½
6 months	12⅞-12⅝	12 months	12½-12¼

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	12¾-12⅝	6 months	12⁷⁄₃₂-12⁵⁄₃₂
3 months	12⅝-12½	12 months	12¹⁄₁₆-12

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12⅞-12¾	3 months	12⅞
7 days	12⅞-12¾	6 months	12⅝
1 month	12⅝	1 year	12⅛

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open	12¼-12	Close	11¾-11½
1 week	12⅞-12⅝	6 months	12⁷⁄₁₆-12⁵⁄₁₆
1 month	12⅞-12⅝	9 months	12⁵⁄₁₆-12³⁄₁₆
3 months	12¾-12⅝	12 months	12¼-12⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months	13¼	6 months	12⅞

Finance House Base Rate

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	40.7985	41.6076	+1.98	+1.91	1.53
Danish krone	7.91917	7.99046	+0.90	+0.83	1.64
German D-mark	2.54502	2.53893	−0.24	−0.31	1.14
French franc	5.99526	5.98463	−0.18	−0.25	1.365
Dutch guilder	2.81318	2.81157	−0.57	−0.64	1.515
Irish punt	0.685145	0.696697	+1.69	+1.62	1.665
Italian lira	1262.92	1266.42	+2.77	+2.70	4.11

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13-14; seven days, 13¾-14¼; one month, 13⁷⁄₁₆-13¹¹⁄₁₆; three months, 14⁷⁄₁₆-14¹¹⁄₁₆; six months, 14¹¹⁄₁₆-14¹⁵⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $533.25 (an ounce); pm, $528 close, $528.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $547-550 (£242-243.75).
Sovereigns (new): $133-135 (£58.75-59.75).

Wall Street

New York, March 25.—Stocks put on a stunning rally in a late spurt of heavy trading and the Dow Jones industrial average closed at its highest level in more than eight years. It finished with a gain of 19.009 points lifting it *well above 1,000 and making it* the highest close since January 23 1973, when it finished the session at 1,018.66.

Advances led declines at the bell by 2-to-1 after steadily increasing their lead throughout the afternoon.

Trading turned heavy in late trading making the NY Stock Exchange tape four minutes late at the bell. Volume was more than 56,000,000 shares compared with 66,400,000 shares yesterday.

The market's surge came despite word from Washington indicating that President Reagan's tax cut plans may be in trouble. The House Ways and Means Committee's chairman, Mr Rostenkowski, said the plan for a three-year 30 per cent cut in income taxes "is all but dead" and he suggested a one-year cut instead.

Blue chip, defence, high technology and oil stocks rose while *takeover news and speculation* boosted other issues.

With the energy issues in demand throughout the session Conoco gained 2¼ to 56¾ on its report of an oil discovery in Indonesia. Apache Corp was up 1⅞ to 23¼. It announced two gas discoveries in South Dakota.

On the takeover front, Amax was up 6¼ to 61¼. Standard Oil Co of California made a $78.50 a share bid for Amax which Amax rejected as inadequate. Standard of California was 42 up 1⅞.

Active Engelhard Minerals added 3¼ to 53¼. It may spin off most or all of its industrial operations.

	Mar 25	Mar 24
Allied Chem	54¼	53½
Allied Stores	23¾	22¾
Allis Chalmers	31¾	31¼
Alcoa	35⅞	35½
Amax Inc	61¼	55
Amerada Hess	37¾	36¾
Am Airlines	15	14¾
Am Brands	71¾	71¾
Am Broadcast	32¾	31¼
Am Can	36¾	35
Am Cyanamid	31¼	30¾
Am Elec Power	16⅞	16¾
Am Home	34¾	34¼
Am Motors	4⅝	4⅝
Am Nat Res	42¾	42½
Am Standard	36¾	36¼
Am Telephone	52	50¾
AMF Inc	25½	25¼
Armco Steel	41¾	40¾
Asarco	43¾	42¾
Ashland Oil	39¼	38¾
Atlantic Richfield	53¾	52½
Avco	28¾	27¾
Avon Products	39½	38¾
Bankers Tst NY	32	31¾
Bank of America	27¾	27¼
Bank of NY	37¾	38¾
Beatrice Foods	20¾	19¾
Bendix	63¾	61¾
Bethlehem Steel	32	30¾
Boeing	35¾	34¾
Boise Cascade	43¾	43¾
Borden	27¾	27¾
Borg Warner	43¾	42¾
Bristol Myers	57¾	57¾
BP	33¾	34¾
Burlington Ind	20¾	20½
Burlington Nthn	69¾	64¾
Burroughs	53½	52¾
Campbell Soup	31¾	31¾
Canadian Pacific	40¾	39¾
Caterpillar	63¾	65¾
Celanese	66¾	67¾
Central Soya	14¾	15
Chase Manhat	45¾	45¾
Chem Bank NY	53	52¾
Chrysler	6¾	6¾
Citicorp	24¾	24¾
Cities Service	43½	43
Clark Equip	37¾	37¾
Coca Cola	37¾	36¾
Colgate	16¾	16¾
CBS	57¾	56¾
Columbia Gas	36¾	36¾
Combustion Eng	43¾	42¾
Comwlth Edison	18¾	18¾
Conoco	56¾	54
Cons Edison	27	26¾
Cons Foods	29¾	29
Cons Power	17¾	17¾
Continental Grp	37¾	37¾
Control Data	65¾	64¾
Corning Glass	71½	67¾
CPC Intnl	70¾	69¾
Crane	43¾	43
Crocker Int	39½	39¾
Crown Zeller	51¾	49¾
Dart & Kraft	48½	47
Deere	45¾	45¾
Delta Air	74¾	72¾
Detroit Edison	11½	11¾
Disney	65¾	61¾
Dow Chemical	38½	37¾
Dresser Ind	48½	47¾
Duke Power	17¾	17½
Du Pont	51¾	49¾
Eastern Air	9¾	9½
Eastman Kodak	81¾	80¾
Eaton Corp	35¾	35¾
El Paso Nat Gas	24¾	23¾
Equitable Life	11	10¾
Esmark	63¾	63¾
Evans P. D.	23¾	22¾
Exxon Corp	71¾	70¾
Fed Dept Stores	38	38¾
Firestone	12¾	12¾
Fst Chicago	16¾	17
Fst Nat Boston	38½	39¾

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot 2.2647 (2.2585); three months, 2.2757 (2.2720). Canadian dollar 1.1814 (1.1848).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 423.55 (426.24). The futures index was 433.00 (434.88).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials 1,015.22 (996.13); transportation 435.40 (424.05); utilities 109 (107.00); 65 stocks 371.67 (364.7). New York Stock Exchange index: Composite 78.82 (77.52); industrials 88.58 (86.70); transportation 78.70; utilities 38.18 (37.7); financial 75.55 (74.90).

COCOA: Spot May added $11.00 a ton on yesterday to settle at $2,046 a ton.—May, $2,046. July, $2,100; Sept, $2,146. Dec, $2,205; March, $2,255. May, $2,305. July, $2,355.

COFFEE slipped slightly with spot May 0.07 cent down on yesterday at 128.60 cents a lb.—May, 128.50c-128.60; July, 127.00c-127.25c; Sept, 126.20c-126.50c; Dec, 124.00c-124.50c; March 122.50c-123.00c; May, 123.00c; July, 123.00-124.00c.

SUGAR closed 0.60 to 0.32 cent a lb lower on disappointed selling. May, 22.50c-22.55c; July, 22.50c-22.60c; Sept, 22.15c; Oct, 21.90c-21.91c; Jan, 20.50c-20.65c; March, 20.45c-20.50c; May, 20.50c-20.65c; July 20.50c-20.70c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS finished with clipped losses, off 3½ to 5 cents a bushel in revived trade. May, 778c-765½c; July, 802c-787c; Aug, 810c-797c; Sept, 815c-805½c; Nov, 831c-820c; Jan, 848½c-839½c; March, 868½c-860c; May 883½c-878c. SOYA-

US commodities

New York, March 25. SILVER futures at the Comex made a closing rally from lows on scattered short-covering after news that talks to avert a labour crisis in Poland were adjourned till tomorrow. Nearby May settled at $13.00 an ounce, up 10 cents. Mch, 1,285.00c; April, 1,285.70c; May, 1,295.00c-1,300.00c; July, 1,325.00c-1,334.00c; Sept, 1,364.00c; Dec, 1,412.00c; Jan, 1,428.00c; March, 1,460.00c; May, 1,492.00c; July, 1,524.00c; Sept, 1,556.00c; Dec, 1,604.00c.

GOLD at NY Comex slipped $3.70 an ounce on yesterday for March to close at $531.00 an ounce. March, $531.00; April, $531.00-$533.00; May $538.00; June, $545.00-$545.50; Aug, $556.20; Oct, $567.00; Dec, $576.00-$578.00; Feb, $593.00; April, $608.00-$608.50; June, $617.60; Aug, $630.00; Oct, $642.40; Dec, $654.90.

CHICAGO IMM GOLD: April $539.70; June $554.80-543.00; July $554.70; Sept $562.60; Oct $573.00; Dec $580.00; Jan $586.80; March $596.00; April $609.80.

COPPER at NY Comex ended a thinly traded session with contracts 0.10 to 0.50 cents lower. May finished at 86.10 cents a lb, off 0.25 cent. March, 85.00c; April, 85.05c; May, 86.00c-86.20c; July, 88.20c-88.30c; Sept, 90.50c; Dec, 93.40c; March, 96.25c; May, 98.25c; July, 100.25c; Sept, 102.25c; Dec, 105.25c; Jan, 106.25c.

COTTON futures slipped 0.55 cent for May to close at 87.10 cents.—May, 87.00c-87.20c; July 87.65c-88.00c; Oct, 85.70c-85.71c; Dec, 82.75c; March, 83.55c-83.60c; May, 84.10c-84.50c; July, 84.30c-85.00c.

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Association of British Travel Agents

HEAD OF COUNCIL & COMMITTEE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

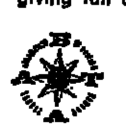
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Deputy Chief Executive,
A.B.T.A.,
55/57 Newman Street,
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DIRECTOR GENERAL

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The House of Commons Commission invites applications from men and women for the post of Deputy Assistant Serjeant at Arms in the House of Commons. The Serjeant at Arms' Department is responsible for much of the administration of the House of Commons, particularly security, communications, ceremonial and housekeeping other than catering.

The work of the Deputy Assistant Serjeant at Arms is mainly concerned with the housekeeping aspects, including accommodation and the upkeep of the buildings, but involves attendance in the Chamber of the House and regular night duty when the House is sitting.

Candidates (preferably aged between 35 and 45) must have had extensive experience of administration and personnel management, preferably gained in some branch of the public services.

Salary (under review) starting at £12,365 rises to £15,015. Night duty allowance. Promotion prospects to around £17,500. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 14 April, 1981) write to Civil Service Department, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours) or London 01-839 1992 (24 hour answering service).

Please quote ref: G/5517/1.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SELL ADVERTISING

Would you like to sell space in any of the following areas:

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If so, we have some very exciting opportunities

NOW

We need 2 sales people who are genuinely ambitious and have some experience in selling, who can drive and don't mind the occasional night away from home.

We are offering a basic salary of at least £5,000 p.a. + a generous commission and a company car.

If you need a challenge and find any of the above areas appealing, please telephone or write to:

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REDUNDANCY GUIDANCE. Consult the specialists. Career Analysts (R), 90 Gloucester Pl. W1. 01-935 5452 (24 hrs).

HIGHLY experienced Artisan in Oriental rugs, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks. Pay neg.—Tel. Gerrards Cross 83401.

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A wonderful opportunity exists to look after purchasing clients in the south of France between Cannes and Monte Carlo.

MONTPELIER INTERNATIONAL PROPERTIES is the U.K.'s leading real estate company and the Executive in France will have the back-up of over 50 salesmen in the U.K. as well as other countries. Sales experience and knowledge of French vital. Apply in writing to:

THE CHAIRMAN,
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If you want a Difficult and Demanding Sales Job in Publishing . . .

We need 3 articulate, intelligent, enthusiastic young people, preferably graduates, definitely educated to A-level standard, to work as Classified Sales Executives in a hard but exciting business environment. Only those who feel that in the current economic climate they can sell effectively and with determination need apply. Full training will be given—average earnings, including commission are about £4,000 p.a. in the first 3 months increasing to £4,500 thereafter. The magazine Engineering Today is the largest weekly circulation publication to Directors and Managers in Industry. In order to arrange an interview ring:

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TRAINEE SALES TO £5,000

A very successful publishing group, our client's expansion has created career openings with the possibility of rapid promotion into management. To meet the demand of the work you'll certainly be extrovert, determined, and have the drive/ambition to succeed in sales. Based in London you'll earn £4,500-£5,000 (salary + commission). If you are aged 21-24 and would enjoy a young, fast moving environment, ring Andrew Swift, 01-629 7262.

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AUDIT MANAGER/ESS CIRCA £10,000

W2 Co of certified accountants require working manager 25-45, to supervise 12 staff. Must have had professional experience and be of smart appearance.

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT CIRCA £7,000

W8 Oil Co require person 25-35 with sound bookkeeping knowledge to trial balance.

Ring Maggie Shuck
JUST JOBS
01-938 1978
219 Kensington High Street,
London, W8.
(Rec Cons)

PART TIME CAREERS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

For export/import company, Chelsea. Knowledge of Middle East useful. Would suit early retired person, 1 or 2 days weekly. Salary neg.

Ring Mrs. Kay Sykes on 437 3103
Recruitment Consultants

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

We are a small established Secretarial Consultancy who due to pressure of work now need a third person to help maintain our high standards of servicing clients as well as creating new business. You will have a minimum of five years' experience with a proven track record, be self-motivated, ambitious and happy working in a team situation. For total dedication we will offer an excellent remuneration with very attractive fringe benefits.

Call Jan Domain or Stella Tasler on 493 1184 for an informal chat.

DEAL WITH PEOPLE

City c £6,500

We are part of one of the UK's largest employment agency groups specializing in professional staff placements. If you consider you could enjoy the stimulating task of helping people to find new jobs, then we would like to meet you. For the well-educated self-motivated person aged 22-30, who has an accountancy and commercial background, we can offer training, above-average salaries, pension scheme, early responsibility and promotion and, above all, excellent long-term career prospects within an expanding group.

Please ring 01-588 1031

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FOURTEEN MONTHS AGO

I had poor prospects and didn't enjoy my job; now I own a 5-bed house, my wife drives a BMW. I earn a high 5-figure income. If you would like to share my success, are aged 22 to 35, 'phone

TERRY HISCOCK
now on 01-637 7587 or 01-637 5698

INTELLIGENT, ENTHUSIASTIC, ARTICULATE

and self-motivated people required to sell advertising space over the telephone in high quality publications from our London offices. Good voice essential. High earning potential for the right people.

RING JOHN BRADLEY ON 01-606 5303 EXT. 6

ADMINISTRATOR, management consultants seek graduate (25-35) with sound experience in general administration and marketing techniques to head up their information department. Salary £8,500 [illegible]

SKI Instructors wanted from [illegible]

NEW INTERIOR DESIGN FINE ARTS MAGAZINE

A major publishing group is launching an important new premium-priced magazine in the autumn which will be concerned primarily with interior design and the fine arts. Applications are invited immediately for the following positions:

EDITOR

The group is looking for an editor with proven journalistic success and experience in interior design, fine arts or related fields.

The editor will be responsible for the evolution and development of an editorial package—content, format and presentation—which will make the magazine the most prestigious of its kind available.

It is, therefore, essential that the successful applicant should have administrative capabilities, as well as the ability to motivate and enthuse his/her staff.

A salary commensurate with the importance and seniority of this position will apply.

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

The successful applicant for this position will have full publishing responsibility for this new magazine. A proven record of success in the quality magazine or newspaper field is therefore essential.

The person chosen will be an accomplished administrator with a highly successful sales record at top client and agency level, specifically in the fields of quality consumer merchandise. And should have some experience of working with printers.

An interest and knowledge of interior design/fine arts would be an additional asset.

A basic salary of £15,000 will apply and an attractive incentive scheme should see the publisher's income level achieve £25,000 in year one.

Applicants for both positions should write, in strictest confidence, giving full details of career to date, to Macfarlanes, Ref. 24, Dowgate Hill House, Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2SY.

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION

CANADA

Applications are invited for an

ESTIMATES & BUDGET OFFICER

Several years' relevant experience essential. Professional qualifications and/or public service experience an advantage.

Salary scale: £8,346-£11,408 per annum.

Application forms and further details should be obtained from:

The Canadian High Commission,
Personnel Division,
Macdonald House,
1 Grosvenor Square, LONDON W1X 0AB.
Telephone: 01-629 9492, Ext. 687

quoting Ref: 81/12/IE. Completed application forms together with a covering letter including the names and addresses of two referees should be returned not later than Tuesday, April 21, 1981.



THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Applications are invited from persons capable of managing the Canadian Government Procurement Office located in London and engaged in contracting with European sources for £10 million worth of Government supplies and services annually.

Candidates should be experienced in contracting for a variety of products, administering contracts over £1 million and managing an office of three or four purchasing agents.

Salary scale: £8,346-£11,408 per annum.

Application forms and further details should be obtained from:

The Canadian High Commission
Personnel Division
Macdonald House
1 Grosvenor Square
London W1 Telephone: 01-629 9492 Ext 687

quoting Ref: 81/10/IE. Completed application forms together with a covering letter including the names and addresses of two referees should be returned not later than Monday, April 27, 1981.

CAREER RE-DIRECTION AND REDUNDANCY COUNSELLING

It might very well be in the best interests of many to re-appraise their careers before the now common phenomenon of redundancy suddenly renders the matter immediate and acute.

We have considerable experience of what might, for you, be a novel and perplexing problem and are equipped to offer well-informed and productive advice on the possible solutions to it.

To arrange a completely confidential discussion, please telephone or write to Malcolm Campbell.

JOHN CHIVERTON ASSOCIATES LTD.
31, Southampton Row,
London, W.C.1.
01-242 5841

SCOTTISH HEALTH SERVICE COMMON SERVICES AGENCY SUPPLIES DIVISION

DIRECTOR

(Scale K, £15,767 to £18,919)

Due to the forthcoming retiral of the present holder, the Management Committee invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the post of Director of the Supplies Division of the Agency. The post is based in Edinburgh.

The successful applicant will be accountable to the Management Committee of the Agency for coordinating and directing the work of the Division, which will be concerned with the organization and management of the supplies function.

Applicants for the appointment should be suitably qualified and have had substantial experience at a senior level in management. Possession of an appropriate qualification such as the Institute of Purchasing and Supply Diploma will be an advantage.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service, Trinity Park House, South Trinity Road, Edinburgh EH5 3SE; telephone 031-552 6255, to whom completed applications should be submitted by April 17, 1981. Please quote reference number U341.

SOUTHERN SPAIN

Opportunity for progressive person to head team based in our Sotogrande offices. We are the largest British owned licensed real estate agents and developers handling the area from Marbella to beyond Gibraltar and inland. Duties involve daily management of the Spanish company and co-ordination of the sales and construction teams. Responsible directly to the resident English Chairman. Spanish or English speaking national, fluent in both languages, essential. Must be experienced in business management. Interviews in London between April 6th and 8th. Applications with full C.V. to:

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4 Bridge Street, Salisbury, SP1 2LX
Tel. 0722 26444**

PLASTIC ENGINEER

Qualified in injection moulding, blow moulding, blow film moulding and familiar with Nigribossi, Krosse and Moretti machines. Basic 24,000 naire per annum, with additional allowances. Accommodation, car and facilities all taken into generous consideration. Paid holidays and fares. Age limit 45.

For further details please write to Mr Peter Gadalla, 135A, Fonthill Rd., London N4 3HH. 01-272 6151 or 01-272 7572.

FIELD SALES MANAGERS

Our nationwide expansion in the insurance industry is creating opportunities for Field Sales Managers (male or female). At present we have opportunities in Birmingham, Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ipswich, Lincoln, London, Portsmouth, Reading, Sheffield and other major cities.

If your present post just doesn't provide the right career and financial incentives, come and join us. Many of our Managers earned over £15,000 last year—and you could do the same if you are aged between 25 and 45 with previous experience in the insurance industry.

Why not ring me now to find out more?

Jack Gilvey, LIS (Life & Pension Services) Ltd.,
Pioneer House, 63a Thorpe Road, Norwich NR1 1UD.
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MARKETING CO-ORDINATOR

We at Herman Miller are leading designers and manufacturers for the office environment. Our marketing programme is expanding and we need a person to set up and run our information and library systems as well as to become thoroughly involved in promotional events.

We are looking for someone in their late 20s, preferably with a degree, who combines a strong administrative ability with the confidence to organise events. A flair for developing systems together with fast typing and limitless energy are requirements for the job. The salary and working conditions are excellent.

Please write with brief details of career to date to:

Sue Brown, Marketing Programme Manager, Herman Miller Ltd, 149 Tottenham Court Road, London W1.

THE NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION

The NFU seeks an Economist and an Agricultural Economist to join a small team in its Economics Division. Applications are invited from graduates with some practical experience of economic problems or students expecting to graduate in the current academic year. Both posts require good drafting skills and an ability to take an effective part in discussion. Salaries according to age and qualifications.

The **Economist** will help to forecast volume and value of output, expenditure and profitability of UK agriculture and to assess the position of agriculture within the national economy; have a sound grasp of both macro and micro economics and some familiarity with Quantitative Methods.

The **Agricultural Economist** will be responsible for enterprise costings and the assessment of other factors affecting individual commodity sectors.

APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STAFF RELATIONS, AGRICULTURE HOUSE, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW1X 7NJ.

La Crème de la Crème

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

Follow your Career and the Sun in Saudi Arabia

As the leading British health care consultants in the Middle East, Allied Medical Group manage the Riyadh Al-Kharj Hospital Programme, which provides the very best of health care for the armed forces of Saudi Arabia and their dependants. The Programme comprises of two modern, superbly equipped, mainly British staffed hospitals in Riyadh, the capital city and Al-Kharj, some 50 miles to the south.

Supervisor-Medical Secretaries

c. £9,532 p.a. inc. tax free

To be in charge of a centralised transcription area, supervising a staff of 18. Duties include work allocation, quality control and filing of medical correspondence.

You should be an accomplished medical secretary with 100+/45+ shorthand/typing speeds. Ideally, you should have at least two years experience with a knowledge of more than one speciality. Previous supervisory and transcription pool experience would be an advantage. Good communication skills, a pleasant personality and confidence in dealing with medical staff are essentials.

The sterling salary quoted is based on 65,108 Saudi Riyals (approximately 7.4 SR = £1) and includes a gratuity of one month's salary for every twelve months' service payable on completion of your two year contract. There are no income tax or exchange/currency regulations operating in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Benefits include:
- ★ free, fully furnished single accommodation;
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- ★ free air fares (including leave flights);
- ★ extensive welfare and recreational facilities.

This post offers an excellent opportunity to develop your career and gain further experience in a first class hospital.

For further details please write, quoting ref. RKH 3112, to: A. M. Edwards, Senior Personnel Officer, Allied Medical Group, 18 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DZ. Or, call our 24 hour answering service on 01-730 5339, quoting the reference number. All applications will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Allied Medical Group

IN-HOUSE P.R. TO £6,500

This West End-based UK holding company is looking for a self-starting Secretary with at least 2 years' PR experience to be their first publicity secretary. You will be responsible for a variety of duties including the co-ordination of the groups public relations activities, the production of Group Literature in addition to liaising effectively with senior members of the Board and media. Age 23-35. Speeds 100/60.

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629 9686
166 Piccadilly

KNIGHT FRANK & RUTLEY SENIOR CONSULTANT

needs a competent and unflappable SECRETARY/P.A. to help him with recruitment for the firm's Graduate Training Scheme, as well as a variety of professional work. A busy job for someone with speeds of 120/65 who enjoys arranging meetings, luncheons, etc. contact with other people and plenty of telephone work. Please telephone Miss McCheane or Mrs Warwick (623 8171) for further details and application form.

Organise and Host — £5,500

. . . This will be your role when you become assistant to the Training Officer for this International Company. Initiating courses, booking student accommodation, liaising between lecturers and trainees and attending business dinners, make this vacancy an opportunity in a million. If you have secretarial skills, call **Sue Pecha immediately.**

Personality, Panache and Perspicacity — £6,750

You seek a stimulating day, your own areas of responsibility, international contact and a top position. You can offer commitment and enthusiasm intelligence, good secretarial skills and a City background. You can expect excellent rewards and sumptuous surroundings as P.A. to the M.D. **Please call Ann Beck.**

Rebel against recession

This prestigious City Company offers an opporunity to a young, eager Audio Secretary as support to their Management Consultants. Bright personality and desire for involvement are as important as some experience. **Call Diane Hilton.**

P.A. to M.D. — £6,500 minimum

I need professionalism, poise, and prudence when I find my client's perfect P.A. If you are in your early 30s possess good skills and are desirous of responsibility and total commitment. **Telephone Josephine Morrison.**

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Private Secretary required by the two joint Managing Directors of a medium-sized innovative engineering company engaged world-wide in plant and equipment contracts. Applicants must be bilingual, able to take shorthand in both German and English. The post will be permanent, enjoy excellent fringe benefits and an above average salary.

Apply in first instance with full details of experience etc. to the Geschaeftsleitung of Hartung, Kuhn & Co., P.O.B. 3926, 4000 Duesseldorf, West Germany.

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Salary equal to £5,500-£6,000 p.a.

We require someone to be responsible for the administration of our Seminar department and to ensure that arrangements in connection with the presentation of seminars have been satisfactorily dealt with. Duties will be varied, including a considerable amount of typing as well as analysing of responses to mailings and appraisals.

For more information please contact: **Del Davies, Dun & Bradstreet Ltd., 26-32 Clifton Street, London, E.C.2. Tel: 01-247 4377, ext. 236.**

D & B World's No. 1 Business Information Network.

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You will be efficient and methodical with good typing skills, audio and/or shorthand experience is essential, although speed is less important than accuracy when dealing with legal documents and company records, where attention to detail is a must! Previous experience in stockbroking, banking, accounting or legal work is desirable but not essential. In return we offer a salary of c. £5,500, 5 weeks' holidays, luncheon vouchers, subsidised staff restaurant and season ticket loan scheme. Please write enclosing C.V. or telephone for an application form to:

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THE THOMSON ORGANISATION LTD
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Telephone 01-629 8111

PA TO THE DIRECTOR SCIENTIFIC CHARITY W.1

Work involves conference organisation and contacts with scientific and medical visitors to London as well as the usual secretarial duties. Luxury offices, free lunches, pension fund. Salary £7,000-£7,500 p.a.

Applications with details of previous experience to the Director

The Ciba Foundation
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

required for American company in West End. Must be self-motivated and speak German, French or Italian well, in addition to possessing the high admin./secretarial skills expected in this position. Remuneration and benefits commensurate with experience but will satisfy the right applicant.

Please write with full c.v. in the first instance to:

Box 2429 F, The Times,

P.A./SECRETARY — A GENUINE P.A. OPPORTUNITY

required by Directors of small City shipping company, presently based in E.C.2., but moving to E.C.3. High standard of secretarial skills required as well as common sense, organising ability and a pleasant personality. Knowledge of simple switchboard and telex an advantage for emergencies. Interesting position for the right person, who would initially work with present Secretary to take over duties.

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01-628 3135

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We require a really good audio secretary who is not looking for their bosses job. You would be working for a Senior Partner of an international firm of surveyors and valuers. Must have a sense of responsibility and be able to work on own initiative, have a good telephone manner, accurate typing essential and shorthand useful.

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A bright person with secretarial and bookkeeping skills to work in small, happy office in W1. Varied, interesting job in finance, marketing and property. Must be adaptable with a good sense of humour.

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INTERNATIONAL BUYING OFFICE in W.1 needs part-time SECRETARY

flexible time approx. 20 hours per week.

Please phone:
MAY DEPARTMENT STORES INTERNATIONAL INC.
631 5008

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Tel. Tessa Dorcey 723 3444

£6,000 neg.

PA/Secretary, 25-30 with good skills, initiative and friendly telephone manner to work for partner in excellent company, WC2.

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320 Regent Street
637 7868
Recruitment Consultants

SHORTHAND SECRETARY AUSTRALIAN STOCKBROKER £6,000 + BONUS

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Phone Pat Southwell
01-628 0622
Potter Partners
16 St Helens Place, EC3

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Audio Secretary (shorthand useful) for two partners of International firm of Surveyors and Valuers. You would be required to attend auctions and prepare catalogues from time to time. Good typing essential. Competitive salary.

Telephone 493 6787

EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE £6,000 + NEG.

Assisting the Director in this Int. Management consultancy. Confidence, an ability to organize and accept delegated responsibilities are qualities you'll need. Deal with the visitors, deputise for your boss when he's away. Zest for life, a good education coupled with secretarial experience are all you need to gain excellent benefits with this sociable company.

Graduate Girls Secretarial
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Peter Price, M.E.P., 13 Orchard Dene, Rainhill, Prescott, Merseyside L35 0LT

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Are you seeking a position which will allow you to play an important role which would quickly lead to administrative responsibilities. The Director of a City based International Company needs a good organiser to set up and attend U.K. conferences. Beautiful offices and good prospects. Secretarial skills of 50/100. Knowledge of German an asset.

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18 Grosvenor Street London W1
Telephone 01-499 2921

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Circa £7,000 + perks

Director of City Co. requires talented person with excellent skills. Good organising ability to be able to deal with Sales Administration and support. Will involve working away from home either U.K. or abroad. Age range 26/38.

Full details contact
Mrs. Mitchell on 439 8071
Kingsland Personnel

GOOD INVESTMENT

2 young Executives in Security Sales Dept. International Investment Bank, have constant need to delegate to enterprising PA/Sec early 20's. Will need person with accurate shorthand typing who can deal with a mass of telephone business involving orders etc. A lot to learn, and an opportunity to become an indispensable part of a team. To £6,000 pa + profit bonus, LV's, Bupa etc.

Joyce Guiness Bureau, 589 8807/0010.
The Recruitment Consultants

Executive Secretary £6,000 23+

This flourishing Management Consultancy needs a well-educated Executive Secretary to assist their Director responsible for banking assignments. Your organisational abilities will be used to the full and there is frequent senior level contact of a highly confidential nature. Secretarial skills of 60/90 wpm and audio experience required. Excellent benefits include free BUPA, STL and non-cont pension.

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18 Grosvenor Street London W1
Telephone 01-499 2921

P.A./SEC.

c £7,500 + p.a. S.W.1

Your excellent secretarial skills (shorthand/audio), aptitude for learning, initiative and organisational abilities are well rewarded in this Australian trading company.

For further details, Madeleine Weyman, Bligh Appointments, 20 Conduit Street, W.1. 493 4372

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BANK YOUR ASSETS £6,500 + MORTGAGE FACILITY

Complement a team of 2 Executive Directors as their P.A. If your forte is arranging meetings, preparing travel itineraries and you thrive on people contact. Your secretarial skills will be of secondary importance as you become totally involved in the world of high finance. Delay no longer.

Ring Kim Russell
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7 Princes St., London W1

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If you have excellent office and typing skills and are attracted by a long term possibility to work in U.S.A. Join the Marketing team of Continental Waterways. Salary neg. 4 weeks holidays. Contact Julia Collins on:

01-228 8671

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Assist with the processing of applications for training certificates for new Doctors. Use your audio skills to assist with mail shots and the processing of information. Excellent opportunity with plenty of variety for a hard working and ambitious person.

Phone Veryan Young
01-629 7262
7 Princes St., W1

Graduate Girls Secretarial

MEDICAL SECRETARY KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Medical Secretary with audio and typing (60/70 wpm), required for private practice. Mid 20s. Switchboard experience an advantage. Salary about £5,000 p.a. LVs, 4 weeks holiday p.a. No Saturdays. Write with full C.V. to:

Box 2783 F, The Times

P.A./SECRETARY

Part time or full time

For small expanding Advertising Agency in Chiswick, W4. Exciting work as PA/Secretary to MD. Excellent telephone manner essential, lots of responsibility in this varied job. Good refs needed.

Peter Town
995 8010

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Director of Banking Services Group requires PA/Secretary with ability to work on own initiative and cope under pressure.

Tel: 01-629 2783

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01-551 5503

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Intelligent Secretary/Receptionist for lively Architects Practice in Marylebone. Immediate start. Contact:

Kim on 01-487 2641

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Bahama gold, full length sunroof, cloth upholstery, power steering, stereo/radio cassette. Tax until Nov '81, 1 year's MOT. 32,000 miles. £7,000.
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1958, black with matching interior. Rebuilt, rewired, retrimmed, repainted, rechromed. Hard and soft top, tonneau cover. Very good condition, MOT.
Offers over £3,500
Ring Gerrards Cross 83993

SITUATIONS WANTED

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HUNGRY, adaptable, 35-year-old ex-advertising exec., property sales, based London, needs job/venture/complete change of scene. 01-229 7907.

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S.W.7.—6 weeks, own room in cosy flat. £30 p.w.—373 4045.

KENTISH TOWN. 2nd person for lovely quiet maisonette, close tube. £35 p.w. 267 4158 eves.

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Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

PERSONAL CHOICE



Thomas Alva Edison, American "father" of the film industry: Camera — Moving Pictures (ITV, 11.00)

● Interviewer to Billy, aged 19, victim of spinal atrophy: "What happens when you get drunk?". Billy to interviewer: "What happens to you? A stinking headache next day." This adroit Shylockian response ("If you prick us . . .") perfectly sums up the mental vigour of the three physically disabled young people whose predicaments are detailed in tonight's Man Alive (BBC 2, 9.25). All three are determined to pursue as independent a line in life as their severe disabilities will allow them to. They are fortunate in being able to define independence and express ambitions. A brief sequence in an institution where the dependence on nursing is total, reminds us of the other, bleaker side of the picture.

● Michael Wood, dynamic delver into the Dark Ages, last week put flesh on the forgotten bones of Athelstan. Tonight (BBC 2, 8.15) he gives substance to a man who sounds as if he might have drawn his first breath during the making of Monty Python and the Holy Grail — Eric Bloodaxe, former king of Norway, twice king in York, last ruler of an independent Northumbria. The snag about Bloodaxe is the absence of a Life that you can pick up and read. Mr Wood doesn't let little things like that worry him. No point in crying over lost chronicles. He makes his own, pasting photocopies into a scrapbook. Then, he reads from it, in a church tower that Bloodaxe himself knew. If you have a vivid imagination, you can see the vanished Viking peeping over Mr Wood's shoulder, nodding his approval.

● *Week 6 of Camera: Moving Pictures* (ITV, 11.00 pm), and this series about the movie pioneers has not faltered, though Gus Macdonald hasn't the best narrator's voice I have ever heard. Tonight's film is about Edison, first man to market movies, build a studio, put on a public screening. He cheated superbly. For every elephant genuinely electrocuted, there was the simulated roasting of a president's assassin. For every boring shot of genuine American soldiers clowning about before tackling the Spaniards in Cuba, there was death-or-glory footage of make-believe trench warfare. Realism fertilized by illusion: it is still the movie formula, 80 years on.

● A day of almost unbroken musical delight on Radio 3: Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde, played by the Royal Liverpool Phil (11.25 am); Schumann's Fantasiestücke, Op 73 (Anton Weinberg, flute; Peter Wallfisch, piano) at 1.05; the Brahms Symphony No 1, by the BBC Northern SO (2.25); Schubert's Winterreise, with Christa Ludwig and Erik Werba (piano) at 3.25; the Saint-Saëns Introduction and Rondo capriccioso (5.20); and Alfred Brendel's Schumann and Liszt recital at 8.55 . . . The third Radio Theatre 81 production is Swan Song, by William Grant: all about a redundant steel-worker turned street busker. Alec Heggie stars. Already seen, on stage, at Perth.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Wealth in Britain. **7.30** Personal Identity. Closedown at 7.55.
9.00 For Schools, Colleges: History: India, the brightest jewel; **9.30** Des le debut; **9.47** Say it with Figures; **10.10** Merry-go-Round; **10.35** It's Maths; **11.30** Search. The links between Wales and Ireland; **11.35** Beside the Sea; **12.20** Closedown.
12.45 News; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Today's edition includes Tony Bilbow's movie feature, Film Focus; **1.45 Bod:** Bod and the Park.
2.00 You and Me: Ready to Go.
2.15 For Schools, Colleges: Music Time: Lieutenant Kije (2). **2.40** Television Club: *Good Fortune*.
3.00 Claire Rayner's Casebook: The problem of those divorced parents who want to keep in touch with their children. Closedown at 3.25.
3.55 Play Schools: Janet Wyatt's story The Princess Finds a Dressmaker. Also on BBC 2 at 11.00.
4.20 Winsome Witch: cartoon. Winnie the Sheriff; **4.25 Jackanory:** John Grant reads Littlenose's Birthday. He also drew the pictures.
4.40 Scooby and Scrappy Doo: cartoon. The Hairy Scare of the *Devil Bear*.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround.
5.05 Blue Peter: Peter Duncan takes a bicycle ride along the 26-mile track he'll be running along in the London Marathon. **5.35 Fred Basset:** The story of the TV break (r).
5.40 News: with Jan Leeming; **5.55** Regional news magazines. Nationwide, at 6.20, includes the Grass Roots item, presented by Gillian Miles from Spotlight South West.
6.55 Tomorrow's World: Includes an item on the use of electronic technology in the printing of colour pages in newspapers and magazines and the calculator that can work out the day on which Easter falls — no matter how many years ahead.
7.20 Top of the Pops: All the latest hits, performed on film and in the studio. With Richard Skinner and Legs & Co.
8.00 Hi-Di-Hi: Holiday camp comedy series. It is ordained that all members on the staff shall smile on Thursdays. But then the campers are brought into the crazy scheme.
8.30 Sorry! Comedy series about a mother-pecked bachelor (Ronnie Corbett). Tonight, he bribes the local dustmen, little realizing how useful they can be to him.
9.00 News: with Richard Baker.
9.25 Lester: The private face of Lester Piggott, who has marked up 23 classic wins, including eight Derby victories, and has been Champion Jockey nine times. Written by Frank Keating, former Sports Writer of the Year, but it is Tom Conti who speaks the commentary.
10.15 Question Time: An audience puts questions to a team which includes Dick Taverne, (a recruit to Social Democrat ranks), Gerald Kaufman, Labour's spokesman on the environment; and Nicky Harrison, Labour councillor and chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities educaion committee. The chairman, as ever, is Robin Day.
11.20 Kojak: A sniper eliminates the boss of a mild-mannered accountant, whereupon his personality undergoes a radical change. With Telly Savalas in the title role.
12.10 Weather forecast.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: 10.10-10.30 am I Ysgolion 2.15-2.35 I Ysgolion. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 8.00-8.30 Tomorrow's World. 12.10 am News. **SCOTLAND:** 10.10-10.30 am For Schools. 12.40-12.45 pm Scottish News. 3.25-3.55 The Afternoon Show. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 8.30-9.00 The Current Account Report. 12.10 am News. **NORTHERN IRELAND:** 11.30-11.50 am For Schools. 3.53-3.55 pm Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Sportsweek. 10.45-11.18 You and Your Rights. 12.10 am News. **ENGLAND:** 5.55-6.20 pm Regional Magazines. 12.15 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Skye, the field evidence. **7.05** Computing: algorithms. **7.30** Maths: Matrix Eigenvalues. Closedown at 7.55.
11.00 Play School: Janet Wyatt's story The Princess Finds a Dressmaker (also on BBC 1, 3.55). The presenters are Floella Benjamin and Brian Cant. Closedown at 11.25.
5.15 Open University: Simulation modelling. **5.40** Religion in a Hindu village (2). **6.45** The media in (1848). **6.30** Guernsey: outside influences.
6.55 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing. Also, the weather forecast.
7.10 Bartok Centenary: Another of these programmes celebrating the centenary of the Hungarian composer's birth. The pianist David Wilde plays excerpts from the Suite Op 14, the Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion (with Allan Schiller, James Holland and Janas Keszei) and the Third Piano Concerto. The London Philharmonic Orchestra is conducted by Bryden Thomson (r). More Bartok music at 11.15 on BBC 2 — the String Quartet No 4, played by the Tokyo String Quartet.
8.15 In Search of . . . Eric Bloodaxe: Another of Michael Wood's historical excavations into the Dark Ages. Former king of Norway, twice king in York and the last ruler of an independent Northumbria, Bloodaxe died in 954. (See Personal Choice.)
9.00 The *Little World of Don Camillo*: Penultimate episode in this much-improved series of adaptations from the books of Giovanni Guareschi about a warring priest and communist mayor in a northern Italian town. Tonight: Christmas time, and we learn why Peppone, the mayor, replaced the Christmas star on top of the church with the hammer and sickle. With Mario Adorf as Don Camillo, Brian Blessed as the mayor.
9.25 Man Alive: Very Independent People. The story of three severely disabled youngsters who have decided to make their own way in the world, despite heavy social odds. Two are spastics and the third is a victim of spinal atrophy. (See Personal Choice). **10.20 Cartoon:** Icarus.
10.30 Newsnight: Bulletins and in-depth treatment of the main stories of the day.
11.15 Bartok Centenary: The Tokyo String Quartet play Bartok's String Quartet No 4, written in 1928. The performance is introduced by Yehudi Menuhin. Tomorrow night's Bartok work is the String Quartet Number 5, and it will be played by the Lindsay String Quartet.
11.50 Closedown.

Thames

9.30 For Schools: Harmful bacteria and viruses. **9.52** Circus world. **10.09** Wortley out of Work. **10.31** A-level evolution course. **10.53** A-level biology. **11.10** Magic and mystery in science. **11.27** Amsterdam canal trip. **11.44** Cartoon opera, The Bricklayers Built a Crooked Chimney.
12.00 Gideon: Two stories about a duckling, with Tim Brooke-Taylor supplying the voices. **12.10 Stepping Stones:** Things than turn and spin. For the very young. **12.30 The Sullivans:** Second World War serial about some Australians.
1.00 News from ITN: 1.20 Thames news: 1.30 Together: Serial about life in a block of flats.
2.00 After Noon Plus: A double-decker edition: an interview with Sir Harold Wilson, and a chat with David Puttnam, the film producer, whose new film Chariots of Fire gets a Royal Film Performance launching next Monday night.
2.25 Mid-Week Racing: the Flat racing season has started, and we see the following races from Doncaster: the 2.35 Northern Handicap, the 3.05 Yorkshire Bottle Handicap, and the 3.35 Doncaster Mile.
3.45 Leave it to Charlie: Comedy about an insurance agent (David Roper) who is always in trouble (r).
4.15 Watch It! A story about Dr Snuggles, the inventor. **4.20 Little House on the Prairie.** Home-spun American series. Today Albert (Matthew Laborteaux) and his pen-pal.
5.15 Emmerdale Farm: More about Pat Merrick and the marriage that went wrong. A story of countryfolk.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news. 6.25 Help! All about London's newest counselling service - "Just Ask".
6.35 Battlestar Galactica: Fred Astaire plays an old con-man who gets the protection of Starbuck (Dirk Benedict) when his life is threatened by the horrible Borellians.
7.30 Bognor: Let Sleeping Dogs Die. Episode two of this thriller about smuggled dogs and the evil men who try and get round the anti-rabies regulations. With David Horrovitch as the Department of Trade investigator.
8.00 The Incredible Mr Tanner: Comedy series about two street entertainers (Brian Murphy and Roy Kinnear). Homeless, they are offered accommodation in exchange for an antique watch. Last episode.
8.30 TV Eye: The launching of the Social Democratic Party. Interviews with supporters and critics.
9.00 Hill Street Blues: American series about the police at work. Daniel K Travanti plays the head of the precinct force.
10.00 News from ITN.
10.30 Thames Report: The serious impact that Soho's 160 sex shops, clubs and cinemas are having on the local residents.
11.00 Camera: Moving Pictures. the story of Thomas Edison, the great American inventor, who gave the world its first film studio, and the peepshow machine that showed moving pictures. (See Personal Choice)
11.30 Three's Company: Romantic comedy series. Tonight: a date with an old high school heart-throb.
12.00 What the Papers Say: Alf Morris MP, minister for the disabled in the Labour government, looks at press coverage of the Year of the Disabled.
12.15 Close: Sir Geoffrey Jackson reads a poem about travel.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News.
6.10 Farming.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 The Song is ended: biography of Layton and Johnstone.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.02 Enterprise.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story:
11.00 News.
11.05 File on 4.
11.50 Inquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Brain of Britain.
1.00 News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: 'Fren' by Ken Blakeson.
4.00 Fritz Spiegel's Musical Alphabet.
4.15 Bookshelf.
4.45 Story: The Householder (9).
5.00 PM.
6.00 News.
6.30 Any Answers?
6.55 It's a Bargain.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Time for Verse.
7.30 Bournemouth Sinfonietta live from Winter Garden, Bournemouth: Corelli, Haydn, Viotti.†
8.25 A Sideways Look At. . .
8.45 Sinfonietta (part 2): Mozart†
9.20 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 News.
11.00 A Book At Bedtime: Anna of the Five Towns (9).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.23 am Weather.

VHF
9.05 am Schools: A Service for Schools; Music Interlude: Sounds, Words and Movement; Music Interlude: Stories and Rhymes.
10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother.
11.00-12.00 Schools: Time and Tune (18): *Man; Home or Away*.
2.00-3.00 pm Schools: Living Language: Look; Living Through History.
11.00 Study On 4: Voci Dall: Italia (1).
11.30-12.10 am Open University: No Safety in Numbers; Ferro-concrete.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Mendelssohn, Grainger, Lars-Erik Larsson, Grainger arr. Kreisler, Nielsen, Purcell, Scarlatti, Telemann, Britten. † (8.00-8.05 News)
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Bartok.†
10.00 Choral Music: Barber and Copland.†
10.35 Piano: Bach, Mozart and Schumann.†
11.25 Concert: Frankel and Mahler.†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Clarinet and piano: Schumann, Brahms, Reger.†
2.00 Harpsichord; Bach.†
2.25 BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra: Siegfried Matthus, Brahms.
3.25 Winterreise, song-cycle by Schubert.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Talking about Music.†
7.30 Play: Swan Song, by William Grant. (See Personal Choice).
8.55 Alfred Brendel (piano): Schumann and Liszt.†
9.55 Words.
10.00 Pattersen (comedy).†
10.30 Men's Voices: Mendelssohn, Finzi, Delius, arr. Holst.†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet parting.

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: The Parents' Centre; *Poverty and Crime*; Social Class.
11.15 pm-12.55 am Open University: The Acceptance of Continental Drift; Control of Education; International Biology Programme; Russell's Logical Atomism; Matrix Methods.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.†
7.30 Terry Wogan.†
10.00 Jimmy Young.†
12.00 David Hamilton.†
2.00 pm Ed Stewart.
4.00 Much More Music.†
6.00 Steve Jones.†
8.00 Country Club.†
9.00 Alan Dell.†
10.00 The News Huddlines.
10.30 Star Sound Extra.
11.00 Brian Matthew.
2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. **7.00** Mike Read. **9.00** Simon Bates. **11.00** Andy Peebles. **12.30** pm Newsbeat. **12.45** Paul Burnett. **2.30** Dave Lee Travis. **4.30** Peter Powell. **7.00** Wheels. **8.00** Richard Skinner. **10.00-12.00** John Peel.

VHF RADIOS 1 and 2. **5.00** With Radio 2. **10.00** pm With Radio 1. **12.00-5.00** am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):—
6.00 am Newsdesk. **7.00** World News. **7.09** Twenty-four Hours. **7.45** Network UK. **8.00** World News. **8.09** Reflections. **8.15** International Soccer Special. **8.30** Fiesta. **9.00** World News. **9.09** Review of the British Press. **9.15** The World Today. **9.30** Financial News. **9.40** Look Ahead. **9.45** The Best of Beecham. **10.15** Words Made Flesh. **10.30** My Word! **11.00** World News. **11.09** News about Britain. **11.15** Intermezzo. **11.30** Business Matters. **12.00** Radio Newsreel. **12.15** pm Top Twenty. **12.45** Sports Round-up. **1.00** World News. **1.09** Twenty-four Hours. **1.30** Network UK. **1.45** The Pleasure's Yours. **2.30** Discovery. **3.00** Radio Newsreel. **3.15** Outlook. **4.00** World News. **4.09** Commentary. **4.15** Assignment. **4.45** The World Today. **5.00** World News. **5.09** Waveguide. **5.15** 'Tis My Delight. **8.00** World News. **8.09** Twenty-four Hours. **9.15** Ulster Newsletter. **9.20** In the Meantime. **9.30** Business Matters. **10.00** World News. **10.09** The World Today. **10.25** Book Choice. **10.30** Financial News. **10.40** Reflections. **10.45** Sports Round-up. **11.00** World News. **11.09** Commentary. **11.15** Merchant Navy Programme. **11.30** Emlyn. **12.00** World News. **12.09** am News about Britain. **12.15** Radio Newsreel. **12.30** John Lennon Story. **1.15** Outlook. **1.45** Ulster Newsletter. **1.50** In the Meantime. **2.00** World News. **2.09** Review of the British Press. **2.15** People's Choice. **2.30** Thirty-minute theatre. **3.00** World News. **3.09** News about Britain. **3.15** The World Today. **3.30** Business Matters. **4.00** Newsdesk. **5.45** The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: *Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF, World Service; med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.*

REGIONAL TV

ATV

As Thames except. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Vic the Viking. 4.50-5.45 Little House on the Prarie. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.30 Emmordale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Contrasts. 11.30 News. 11.35-12.35 am Lou Grant.

Southern

As Thames except. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.30 University Challenge. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Cross-Channel. 11.30-12.00 Father Dear Father. 12.20 am Weather followed by Davidson File.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 4.20 Chips. 5.15-5.45 Power Game. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Celebration. 11.30 What the Papers Say. 11.60-12.45 am Paris.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 am-1.30 News. Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 Father Dear Father. 4.20 Fantastic Four. 4.45-5.45 Tarzan. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32 That's Hollywood. 11.00 Come In If You Can Get In. 11.30 Soap. 12.00-12.05 am Blokes, Battles and Beliefs.

Westward

As Thames except. 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Preview West. 10.32 News. 10.36 Faith for Life. 10.40 Jazz. 11.10 Camera. 11.40-11.45 Postscript to Faith for Life.

HTV

As Thames except. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.10 Jobline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Happy Days. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28 News. 10.35 One.. Two...Three. 11.20-12.15 am SWAT.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.30 am-9.45 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 pm Owain A'r Ollon. 4.15-4.20 Noah and the Ark. 4.20-4.45 Take a Chance. 4.45-5.10 Ser. 5.10-5.20 Cartoon. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Sports Arena. 10.35-11.35 Running. 11.35-12.33 am SWAT.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Eruption of Mount St Helens. 10.28 News. 10.36 Vision USA. 10.40 Jazz. 11.10-11.40 Camera.

Grampian

As Thames except. Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.20 Project UFO. 5.10-5.15 Police News. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Electric Theatre Show. 10.30-11.00 Cover to Cover. 11.30 Mannix. 12.25 am-12.30 News.

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Life Begins at Forty. 4.20- Unaccustomed As I Am. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Action Line. 6.30 Nature Watch. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Jazz. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35-12.30 am Tenspeed and Brown Shoe.

Yorkshire

As Thames except. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Survival. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 With a Little Help. 11.30-12.00 George Hamilton IV.

Ulster

As Thames except. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45 Life Begins at Forty. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.50 Police Six. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Counterpoint. 11.30-11.40 Bedtime.

Border

As Thames except. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 New Fred and Barney Show. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.10 Close Encounters. 11.30-11.33 News.

Anglia

As Thames except: Starts 9.15 am-9.30 Jobline. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Project U.F.O. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Survival. 10.30-11.00 Basketball. 11.30 Fantasy Island. 12.25 am Living Word.

Entertainments Guide

Classified Guide

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Personal Trade	01-278 9351

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.:
Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180

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Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display (min 5cms)
Court Circular	£5.00 per line
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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 26

BIRTHDAYS

PATRICIA R. SMITH.—21 today ! Congratulations. Love Mum, Dad and Alan.

PETER FAGGETTER.—Happy birthday from Ivan, Olga and Daniel.

MARRIAGE

FORSYTH : CORTER.—On February 15th, quietly in San Francisco, Jamie Forsyth to Maralee Corter.

DEATHS

AIDIN.—On 16th March, in Isfahan, Nouhie Aidin, missionary teacher, in her 91st year.

ANGEL.—On 25th March, 1981, Robert Lewis Angel, M.B.E., M.M., T.D., of Beckenham, Kent, loved husband of Margaret and late of London Rifle Brigade, aged 82 years. Funeral service at St. George's Church, Beckenham, at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 31st March, followed by private cremation. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to Sue Ryder Foundation, Cavendish, Suffolk.

BLACKBURN.—On March 23rd, 1981, in Madeira, Darrell, of The Coach House, Asheldon Rd., Torquay.—R.I.P.

BURROWS, Dr. KEITH.—Suddenly, on March 22nd, on holiday in Perpignan, loving and dearly loved husband of Pat, and father of Christopher, Sophie, Tanya and Sylvia. Private family funeral service. Donations if desired in memory of Keith to Middlesex Hospital Special Trustees: send to Miss J. H. Cook, Finance Dept., Middlesex Hospital, London, W.C.1.

CHATTERTON.—On 24th March, 1981, at home, Richard Chatterton, M.C., of Woodhall Spa, aged 85, dear husband of Margaret and father of Peter and Jo. Funeral service at St Mary's, Horncastle, on Monday, 30th March, at 12.15 p.m., followed by cremation at Lincoln. No flowers, please, but donations for the Salvation Army or the Royal British Legion may be sent to Lloyds Bank, Horncastle.

FRENCH.—On 24th March, at her daughter's home, Dorothy Brodie, aged 98 years, wife of the late Dr. R. E. French and daughter of the late Edward Ford, barrister-at-law, the very dear mother of Hugh, Jack, Ted and Mollie and much loved by all their families. Cremation at Randalls Park, Leatherhead, on Monday, 30th March, at 12.30. No flowers please, but donations in her memory will be gratefully received by the Abbeyfield Society at their Edinburgh office, 3 Howe Street, Edinburgh EH3 6TE.

GRAY.—On March 24th, 1981, peacefully, in hospital after a short illness, aged 83 years, Dr George Charles Gray, DMus Cantuar, BMus Dunelm, MMus Leicester, FRCO, FRSCM, formerly organist and master of music at Leicester cathedral. Husband of the late Gladys and dear father of Martin, Michael and Margaret, and a loving grandfather. Funeral service at the cathedral church of St Martin, Leicester, on Monday, March 30th, at 11.30 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please, but donations to Leicester Organisation for the Relief of Suffering (Hospice), care of Ginns & Gutteridge, St Nicholas House, Vaughan Way, Leicester (Tel 56117).

HILL.—On 25th March, A. Phillips, Hon F.R.A.M. and Hon F.G.S.M., in his 98th year, at Great Missenden, beloved husband of the late Laura Hill, dear father of Desmond, Mavis and Avril and dear grandpop to his grandchildren and greatgrandchildren, former senior partner of W. E. Hill & Sons, Violin Makers. No letters, please. Family flowers only. Private cremation. Donations, if desired, to Age Concern, Great Missenden, care of 2 Colville Court, Great Missenden, Bucks.

LORD, MARGARET ALICE (nee Grindale).—On March 17th at Eastbourne, beloved mother of Nancy and James, funeral private.

LOWTHER.—On 24th March, at his home Whitbeslands, Askham, Penrith, Cumbria, Captain the Honourable Anthony George Lowther, M.B.E., D.L. Funeral at St Michael's and All Angels, Lowther, on Saturday, March 28th at 11.30.

MADGWICK.—On 23rd March, Prof. Edwin, peacefully, aged 87. Cremation Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, 11.30 a.m., Monday, March 30th.

NICHOLLS, ALAN RICHARD, BSc, FRGS, of Truro, formerly of Muswell Hill, London. Funeral service took place on March 25th at Truro, Cornwall.

SADLER.—On March 24th, peacefully, at the home of Joyce and Fred Tucker, Rodhuish, Minehead, Guy Ottiwell, aged 75, brother of Rachel Greswell. Funeral at St. Audries, 12 noon, March 30th. Family flowers only.

STAFFORD.—On March 24th, peacefully, in a Manchester hospital after a short illness, Harry Shaw, beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral service at Manchester Crematorium, Barlow Moor Road, on Monday, March 30th, at 1.00 p.m. Family flowers only, but if desired donations to Leukaemia Research Fund, 43 Great Ormond St., London, W.C.1. Inquiries to Albert R. Slack (Funeral Directors) Ltd., 84 South Oak Lane, Wilmslow. Telephone Wilmslow 525005.

... Cottage Hospital, 95-year-old Ernest Henry Borland (Wid), of Gower House, Gower Road, Weybridge. Commissioned in the R.F.C. and the R.A.F. Arrangements of memorial service to be announced later.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

COLVIN.—A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Brenda Colvin will be held at St. James's, Piccadilly, London, on Friday, 27th March, at 12 noon.

KELHAM.—A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Dr. Geoffrey Kelham will be held at the Middlesex Hospital chapel, Mortimer St., London, W.1, at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1st.

WATSON HUGHES.—The memorial service for the late Mr John Brian Watson Hughes will be held on Tuesday, 7th April, 1981, 11 a.m. at Liverpool Parish Church.

IN MEMORIAM

ANDERSON.—In loving memory of William Curling Anderson who passed away on Monday, March ..., 1907. Deeply mourned.

HUTCHINSON, GEORGE, C.B.E.—In dear and loving memory.—Pamela, Annabel and Mark.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

HEARING PROBLEMS ?

Visit THE INTERNATIONAL HEARING AID EXHIBITION. New advances in micro-chip technology brings clearer hearing never before dreamed possible. World's leading manufacturers are featuring the new modular insert, fits totally inside the ear: nearest to natural hearing. Admission free. Now on.

Bournes, Oxford St., W.1
Telephone 01-636 1515

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECRETARY-PLUS for Property Co in Chelsea—See La Creme.

SECRETARY for London-based design consultancy—see Creme de la Creme.

20 PER CENT discount on your new handmade Sofa.—See JHD. For Sale column.

GOVERNESS TEACHER required immediately. See Dom. & Cat.

WE HIRE cars with chauffeurs for weddings, investitures, garden parties, races, touring, filming, premieres and for those special occasions. We need to hear from owners of vintage cars, Rolls-Royces, and any unusual car which we may be able to add to our Register For Hire with our chauffeurs. A fee is paid to the owners. Please ring us at 01-794 8282, ext. 16, for more details or write to Teleportation, Freepost, London NW2 1YB.

IQ test/membership details from Mensa (B), FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR. Tel.: 0902 ...

TAKE your phone fishing ? Phonemate will tell you how. 01-431 ...

EXAMINATION NERVES? Do justice to your ability. See Services.

SICKERT.—The Arts Council is seeking information on the whereabouts of paintings by Sickert dating from 1927 or after for an exhibition at The Hayward Gallery in London next November.—Write to Andrew Dempsey, Arts Council, 105 Piccadilly, London, W.1.

WHAT'S 7FT. CUDDLY and delivers champagne? See Services.

IRRESISTABLE CARPETS from Rodis.—See For Sale.

WORRIED about exams ? Tuition help available. See Services.

AESINTHE: GINNY, suburban housewife, with a faithful low cholesterol husband and two predictable children.

P.A. to Director Scientific Charity W.1.—See La Creme.

THE FIELD requires Sec. with country interests.—See Sec. Vacs.

HOW to live on £100,000 p.a.—See Peerless in Services.

HELLO Gorgeous. Love conkers all. I am yours forever. Frank.

1981 Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race Tickets. See Sport and Rec.

NURSE/RECEPTIONIST for private W.1. practise.—See non-secretarial.

SOUTH OF FRANCE.—Sales Executive required, wonderful opportunity.—Ref Rec. apps. today.

REMEMBER A DEPARTED FRIEND, with a tribute that blooms in lasting happiness for old people. There is no more fitting memorial to a loved name than to link your regard with enduring work for the lonely or frail. Every £ you give towards a Day Centre or medical assistance among elderly people in great need achieves a great deal, thanks to volunteers all over Britain. Please send your gift with the name you wish to commemorate to: The Hon Treasurer, The Rt Hon Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room TINM, 32 Dover Street, London W1A 2AP.

SOUTHERN SPAIN.—Opportunity for progressive person, experience in business management ? See Recruitment Opportunities today.

ROLLERBALL.— Tickets required. See Wanted Today.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,484

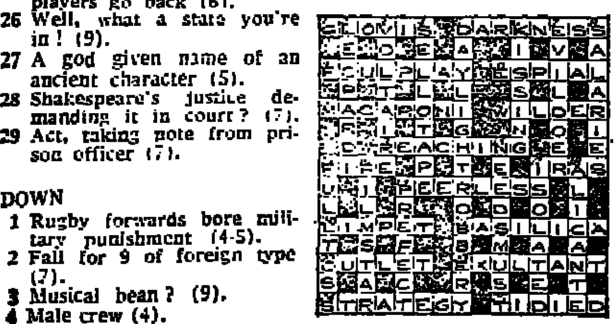
ACROSS

1 Apt to appease, in the main (7).
5 Two making such a company, like Gilbert's Utopia? (7).
9 Envious Roman returns bills to another (5).
10 Many a river has an additional boat (9).
11 Bill's party clothes in it? (6).
12 A sort of riding habit—period (8).
14 Ladies almost wild to achieve perfection (5).
15 It gives time to take the strain (9).
18 Short time—long distance (5-4).
20 Song for keener types (5).
22 Guide gets us an empty Pullman (8).
24 Ferocious animal makes players go back (6).
26 Well, what a state you're in! (9).
27 A god given name of an ancient character (5).
28 Shakespeare's justice demanding it in court? (7).
29 Act, taking note from prison officer (7).

DOWN

1 Rugby forwards bore military punishment (4-5).
2 Fall for 9 of foreign type (7).
3 Musical bean? (9).
4 Male crew (4).
5 Writings of sovereign are utter nonsense (10).
6 Complaint is a parental afterthought? (5).
7 Great blow having rent trouble (7).
8 Worst type of bad form, perhaps (5).
13 Members of IRA meet VIP in this mood (10).
16 Chips, perhaps, from the painting (3-6).
17 Formerly coming out of pressing necessity (9).
19 PG has Arlen novel—boarders want it (7).
21 Robin gets fish all right—about 100 (7).
22 Birds in trousers? (5).
23 Hunter turned up in a peignoir—odd! (5).
25 Speed of a flier (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,483



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH

Much is known about cancer—but not yet enough to bring it under control. Your personal donation to our work will go directly to helping the highest level of scientific research.

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WANTED !—Intelligent Secretary/receptionist for lively Architects practice Marylebone. See Creme de la Creme today.

WRITING courses from "Arvon" in Devon.—See Services.

WANTED, S. France villa, April.—See Holidays & Villas.

P.A./SEC.—A genuine P.A. opportunity — shipping — see La Creme.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE, Park Place, St. James's. The elegant conference and banquet venue. Contact Banqueting Manager, 01-493 5051.

SPORT AND RECREATION

RACING special to Grand National April 4th. 1st class train Euston-Liverpool serving champagne breakfast, morning coffee plus 5-course dinner on return journey. Calling at Watford, Rugby and Stafford. £50 return. Tel. Sports Space, 01-937 8973.

OPEN Golf championship.—Charming house in Rye available (sleeps 6/8).—01-588 6464, Extn. 548 during office hours.

1981 Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, April 4th. Launch tickets available. Price £3.50, including V.A.T. Cheques and S.A.E. to: Phil Morris, 153 Cranmer Court, Sloane Avenue, London, S.W.3.

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GAS LOG/COAL FIRES from £75! Sale now on. Free survey. Ideal Fires, 378 Upper Richmond Rd. West E. Shern, SW14. 876 3819.

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UK HOLIDAYS

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BARTON CHILDREN'S HOLIDAYS, Summer and Easter, half-terms and weekends. Now filling up. Old/new clients ask for brochure soon please to 'Moorlands', East Knoyle, Salisbury. Tel. (0747-83) 230.

E. SUSSEX.—Tudor house & garden. Tennis court. Ch. Sleeps 10-12. April £225 p.w. Summer £325 p.w. 01-836 2507.

PICK raspberries in Scotland mid-July - mid-August.—Send large s.a.e. to VWI, 9 Park End St., Oxford.

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RUSSELL CT, W.C.1. — Furnished flat, prestige block, 1 room, kitchen & bathroom, central heating: £65 p.w. inclusive. Avail. till 4th July. Reference and returnable deposit required.—Telephone: Northwood 26906 evenings.

ABSOLUTE LUXURY, Chelsea. Superb 2 bedroomed flat near Sloane Square, serviced daily, 24-hr porter: £250 p.w. — Tel: 948 4944 after 6 p.m.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EASTER SKIING in Argentiere, France. Luxury private staffed chalet for parties of 8, from £100 p.w.—Tel.: 01-736 4195.

CARIBBEAN HOLIDAYS, Transatlantic Wings, 01-602 6285, ATOL 305B Kestours.

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EASTER IN AMSTERDAM £49.—Tenirek 01-302 6426.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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April/May availability

CRETE. Apartments from £132. April 20, 27. May 4, 11.

CORFU/Benitses Villas, from £126. April 13, 20, 27. May 4, 11.

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ATHENS. Hotel B'B. from £123. May 15, 22, 29.

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SAM TRAVEL CENTRE LTD, 45 Great Portland Street, W.1. 01-631 4440. Air Agts.

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BLUE ARROW SKI-TIME
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SPRING FLIGHTS. Basle, Copenhagen, Geneva, Stockholm, Vienna, Zurich.—01-437 3767. City by City Tours. ATOL 882B ABTA.

LATIN AMERICAN TRAVEL to South America. Save money and save time, contact the specialists. 01-935 3648. Air Agts.

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VERBIER—EASTER. Chalet parties. Few places left 8th April, 2 wks, £268 p.p. Sunburst Holidays (ATOL 1174B). Phone 01-263 6101.

BOOMERANGS. Australia, rtn. £460 low season. O/W confirmed £308. Trailfinders, W8. 01-937 9631. Air Agts.

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SOUTH AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN. Best reliable fares. Transatlantic Wings. 01-602 4021. Air Agts.

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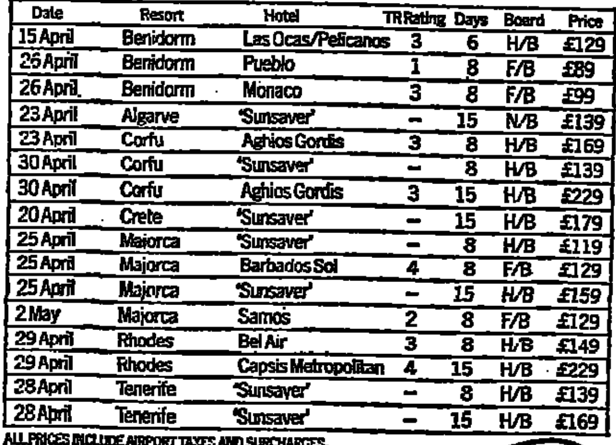
BRITTANY.—Seaside villas for August avail.: £191/£364 p.w.—Eric Turrell Ltd. (0451) 21013. (ABTA.)

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Date	Resort	Hotel	TR Rating	Days	Board	Price
15 April	Benidorm	Las Ocas/Pelicanos	3	6	H/B	£129
26 April	Benidorm	Pueblo	1	8	F/B	£89
26 April	Benidorm	Monaco	3	8	F/B	£99
23 April	Algarve	'Sunsaver'	–	15	N/B	£139
23 April	Corfu	Aghios Gordis	3	8	H/B	£169
30 April	Corfu	'Sunsaver'	–	8	H/B	£139
30 April	Corfu	Aghios Gordis	3	15	H/B	£229
20 April	Crete	'Sunsaver'	–	15	H/B	£179
25 April	Majorca	'Sunsaver'	–	8	H/B	£119
25 April	Majorca	Barbados Sol	4	8	F/B	£129
25 April	Majorca	'Sunsaver'	–	15	H/B	£159
2 May	Majorca	Samos	2	8	F/B	£129
29 April	Rhodes	Bel Air	3	8	H/B	£149
29 April	Rhodes	Capsis Metropolitan	4	15	H/B	£229
28 April	Tenerife	'Sunsaver'	–	8	H/B	£139
28 April	Tenerife	'Sunsaver'	–	15	H/B	£169

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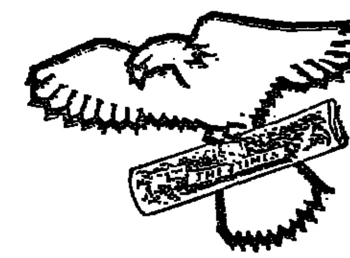
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